The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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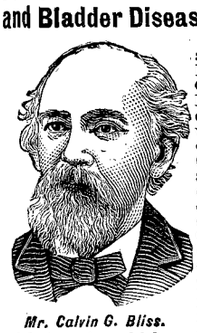

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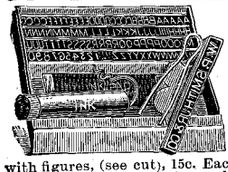

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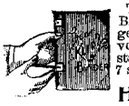

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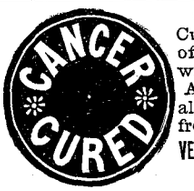

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE TERRITORIES.

DECISIONS of the Supreme Court of the United States continue to be quoted on both sides in the debate regarding territorial expansion. The decision of Circuit Judge Morrow in an Alaska liquor case, affirming "the now well-established doctrine that the Territories of the United States are entirely subject to the legislative authority of Congress" (quoted in THE LITERARY DIGEST, July 2, 1898), was questioned by *The American Law Review*, which cited numerous decisions of the Supreme Court to show that the powers of Congress are plenary, *except* in so far as Congress is restrained by the provisions of the Constitution itself (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, August 13). In its December issue, *The American Law Review* quotes at length the language of Chief Justice Taney, in the Dred Scott opinion, showing that "Congress can not govern the Territories outside of the Constitution or in disregard of those fundamental rights guaranteed by that instrument." The reasoning set forth in this opinion was used as one of the chief arguments against "imperialism" by Senator Vest in a recent speech in the Senate, and is used again by him in a contribution to *The North American Review* for December. Senator Vest writes:

"The Constitution of 1789 provided that Congress should have power 'to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other property of the United States,' and 'to admit new States into the Union.'

"These provisions must be taken together, and obviously mean that Congress can legislate for the sale of public lands, and for the proper government of newly acquired territory until it is ready for statehood.

"In Dred Scott *vs.* Sandford (19th U. S. Reports), the Supreme Court decided that 'there is certainly no power given by the Constitution to the federal Government to establish or maintain colonies bordering on the United States or at a distance, to be ruled and governed at its own pleasure, or to enlarge its territorial limits in any way, except by the admission of new States.'

"This portion of the opinion was concurred in by all the justices, including McLean and Curtis, who dissented from the views of the majority as to the rights of a slave-owner to carry his slaves into a Territory where slavery had been prohibited by Act of Congress. In their dissenting opinions, Justices McLean and Curtis declare that Congress can exercise no powers in territory acquired by conquest or purchase which are prohibited by the Constitution, and their legislation must be for the protection of life and property, and 'initiatory to the establishment of state governments.'

"This decision as to holding colonies has never been questioned by any court or public man in this country until the craze for expansion made its appearance within the past few months.

"The expansionists, made desperate by the plain teaching of our early history, and the unanimous opinion of nine Supreme Court justices, representing all sections and political opinions, contend that the Constitution does not apply to the Territories, and that Congress has unlimited power to control new territory as colonies if it believes this condition to be needful. Mr. Webster is quoted as authority for the doctrine that the Constitution does not apply to the Territories, and it is true that in an acrimonious debate in the Senate with Mr. Calhoun in 1848, when the latter asserted that slavery existed in the territory acquired from Mexico by reason of the federal Constitution, which recognized slavery, being extended over such territory, Mr. Webster not only declared that the Constitution did not apply to the Territories, but that the Constitution gave the federal Government no power to acquire territory in any way.

"With great deference to Mr. Wesbter's ability and learning, it must be emphatically stated that his position is too monstrous for serious discussion. That Congress can ignore the Bill of Rights, and deprive citizens in a Territory of the right to trial by jury, security from unlawful search and seizure, freedom of religious opinion, and the other rights guaranteed by the Constitution, can not be defended successfully even by Webster.

"The Supreme Court of the United States has repeatedly determined that the federal Constitution, with all its provisions, applied to all territory under the jurisdiction of our Government.

"In the case of Loughborough *vs.* Blake (4th Wheaton), Chief Justice Marshall, in delivering the opinion, said that the term 'United States' meant 'the whole republic, composed of States and Territories, and all the provisions of the Constitution as to taxation and personal rights applied to the whole country alike.'

"Chief Justice Waite, in the case of 'The National Bank *vs.* the County of Yankton' (101 U. S. Reports), speaking for the court, said that the Territories held the same relation to the federal Government as counties to a State, and that 'Congress had all the powers of the people of the United States, except such as have been expressly or by implication reserved by the prohibition of the Constitution.'

"In Thompson *vs.* Utah (170th U. S. Reports), the Supreme Court decided that the provisions of the Constitution relating to trials by jury for criminal offenses applied to the Territories, and that Congress in legislating for the Territories is subject to all the limitations of the Constitution.

"The same doctrine is announced in The American Publishing Company *vs.* Fisher (166th U. S. Reports), and Crandall *vs.* Nevada (6th Wallace)."

On the other hand the claim is made that Chief Justice Taney's opinion on this matter was purely *obiter dictum*, in a decision turning on other points and afterward reversed. Senator Platt of Connecticut, replying to Mr. Vest in the Senate, further maintained that Supreme-Court decisions interpreting the power of Congress "to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regula-

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tions respecting, the territory and other property of the United States," confirmed all-sufficient national sovereignty. He said:

"I propose to maintain that the United States is a nation; that as a nation it possesses every sovereign power not reserved in its Constitution to the States or the people; that the right to acquire territory was not reserved, and is therefore an inherent sovereign right; that it is a right upon which there is no limitation, and with regard to which there is no qualification; that in certain instances the right may be inferred from specific clauses in the Constitution, but that it exists independent of these clauses; that in the right to acquire territory is found the right to govern it; and as the right to acquire is a sovereign and inherent right, the right to govern is a sovereign right not limited in the Constitution, and that these propositions are in accordance with the views of the framers of the Constitution, the decisions of the Supreme Court, and the legislation of Congress."

Against the doctrine of restricting the power of the United States to expand territory to the clause permitting the admission of new States, Mr. Platt cited the annexation of territory by joint resolution (Texas); by discovery, occupation, and exploration (Oregon); by simple discovery (Guano Islands); by taking formal possession (Midway Islands), etc., as well as under the treaty-making and war-making power of Congress:

"Where is the limitation in the Constitution on the right to acquire? Where is it said in the Constitution that the territory acquired by conquest must be held by the United States for the purpose of admitting States? Suppose an extreme case. Suppose the imperative interests of the United States demand at some future time that we shall have some territory on the coast of Africa and we take it by conquest, and we acquire dominion over savages and barbarians. Where is the clause in the Constitution, or the implied obligation in the Constitution, that we admit it as a State into the Union?

"Go a little farther. Suppose the Senator from Alabama passes his bill for the construction of the Nicaragua canal, as I hope and pray he may. Suppose, then, that the United States shall find it desirable, as is provided in the last concession granted by Nicaragua, that we should acquire 2,500,000 acres of land, I believe it is, along the line of the canal, and Nicaragua cedes it to us with treaty or without treaty. Can we not take it; and if we take it, what clause in the Constitution, directly or impliedly, says we have finally got to organize a State along both sides of the canal and make the people who are there citizens of the United States, with all the rights pertaining to citizens who live in the States? No one, Mr. President. . . . . .

"Where is the specific clause to be found in the Constitution declaring that we may acquire territory for coaling-stations? How large may a station be? To what limits must it be circumscribed? If we can acquire property for a coaling-station, why not for a naval station . . . and how much territory may we acquire for a naval station? And if acquired, what sort of government may we establish in connection with our naval station?"

Mr. Platt proceeded:

"In the right to acquire territory is found the right to govern, and as the right to acquire is sovereign and unlimited, the right to govern is a sovereign right, and I maintain is not limited in the Constitution. If I am right in holding that the power to acquire is the sovereign power without limitation, I think it must be admitted that the right to govern is also sovereign and unlimited.

"But if it is sought to rest the right to govern upon that clause of the Constitution which gives Congress the power to dispose of or make 'all needful rules and regulations' for the government of the territory of the United States, I submit there is no limitation there. There is no qualification there. It is to make 'all' needful rules and regulations for the government of the 'territory' of the United States; not the 'Territories' of the United States. A great deal of confusion exists in the way in which this word is used, which I shall advert to later on.

"Now, if we may make all needful rules and regulations, where is the limitation? Where is the qualification? Justice Taney says the limitation and the qualification are because there is no power to acquire the territory except under the clause for the admission of new States, and therefore it must be held that these rules and regulations must be made solely with reference to the admission of the territory as a new State. But if Justice Taney is wrong about that, if there is other power in the Constitution—and who now denies it?—if the power in the Constitution is full and ample, then his reasoning falls to the ground and there is absolutely no limit or qualification to be found in that clause of the Constitution.

"A Territory is not and can not be organized under the Constitution. It is organized under the power of Congress, which, as

On the heels of the announcement that Jim Corbett will open a saloon here comes the news that Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp, of Tombstone, Ariz.; Doc Holliday, Ed Casey, the Kid, of Skaguay, Alaska, and Doc Brown, of Spokane Falls, are coming to Havana to engage in various enterprises.—Special cable from Havana.—*The Globe, St. Paul.*

CUBAN ARMY: "Now watch me."
—*The Republican, Denver.*

CURRENT

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the cases have said over and over again, is absolute, full, and plenary. How far Congress in the exercise of that power may be bound by rights conferred by the Constitution upon the citizens I shall allude to further on. But the Territories are not organized under the Constitution. The territorial courts are not constitutional courts. If they were the 'inferior courts' mentioned in the Constitution, the judges thereof would have to be appointed with a life tenure. The judges are appointed for a limited term. Over and over again the Supreme Court has held that those were not constitutional courts; that they were not organized under the Constitution; that they were not created under the Constitution; that they were created under and by the power of Congress. . . .

"Mr. President, the Mormon Church case, in 130 United States, p. 134, is clear and explicit on this point. It is stated in the head note:

The power of Congress over the Territories is general and plenary.

"What limitation is there upon a general and plenary power? . . . In his opinion Justice Bradley says:

"'The power of Congress over the Territories of the United States is general and plenary, arising from and incidental to the right to acquire the Territory itself, and from the power given byt he Constitution to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the Territory or other property belonging to the United States. It would be absurd to hold that the United States has power to acquire territory and no power to govern it when acquired. The power to acquire territory, other than the territory northwest of the Ohio River (which belonged to the United States at the adoption of the Constitution), is derived from the treaty-making power and the power to declare and carry on war. The incidents of these powers are those of national sovereignty, and belong to all independent governments. The power to make acquisitions of territory by conquest, by treaty, and by cession is an incident of national sovereignty.

The Territory of Louisiana, when acquired from France, and the Territories west of the Rocky Mountains, when acquired from Mexico, became the absolute property and domain of the United States, subject to such conditions as the Government, in its diplomatic negotiations, had seen fit to accept relating to the rights of the people then inhabiting those Territories. Having rightfully acquired said Territories, the United States Government was the only one which could impose laws upon them, and its sovereignty over them was complete. No State of the Union had any such right of sovereignty over them. No other country or Government had any such right. These propositions are so elementary, and so necessarily follow from the condition of things arising upon the acquisition of new territory, that they need no argument to support them. They are self-evident.

Chief Justice Marshall, in the case of the American Insurance Company *vs.* Canter, 1 Pet., 511, 542, well said:

"Perhaps the power of governing a Territory belonging to the United States, which has not, by becoming a State, acquired the means of self-government, may result necessarily from the facts that it is not within the jurisdiction of any particular State, and is within the power and jurisdiction of the United States. The right to govern may be the inevitable consequence of the right to acquire territory. Whichever may be the source whence the power is derived, the possession of it is unquestioned."

And Mr. Justice Nelson, delivering the opinion of the court in Benner *vs.* Porter, 9 How., 235, 242, speaking of the Territorial governments established by Congress, says:

"They are legislative governments, and their courts legislative courts, Congress, in the exercise of its powers in the organization and government of the Territories, combining the powers of both the federal and state authorities."

Chief Justice Waite, in the case of National Bank *vs.* County of Yankton (101 U. S., 129, 133), said:

"In the organic act of Dakota there was not an express reservation of power in Congress to amend the acts of the Territorial legislature, nor was it necessary. Such a power is an incident of sovereignty and continues until granted away. Congress may not only abrogate laws of the Territorial legislatures, but it may itself legislate directly for the local government. It may make a void act of the Territorial legislature valid, and a valid act void. In other words, it has full and complete legislative authority over the people of the Territories and all the departments of the Territorial governments. It may do for the Territories what the people, under the Constitution of the United States, may do for the States."

In a still more recent case, and one relating to the legislation of Congress over the Territory of Utah itself, Murphy *vs.* Ramsey (114 U. S., 15, 44), Mr. Justice Mathews said: "The counsel for the appellants in argument seem to question the constitutional power of Congress to pass the act of March 22, 1882, so far as it abridges the rights of electors in the Territory under previous laws. But this question is, we think, no longer open to discussion. It has passed beyond the stage of controversy into final judgment. The people of the United States, as sovereign owners of the national Territories, have supreme power over them and their inhabitants.

"Now, I wish to call attention to this:

In the exercise of this sovereign dominion they are represented by the Government of the United States—

"That is, the people—

to whom all the powers of government over that subject have been delegated, subject only to such restrictions as are expressed in the Constitution or more necessarily implied in its terms.

"That is quoted from Murphy *vs.* Ramsey. Then Justice Bradley goes on to say:

Doubtless Congress in legislating for the Territories would be subject to those fundamental limitations in favor of personal rights which are formulated in the Constitution and its amendments; but these limitations would exist rather by inference and the general spirit of the Constitution, from which Congress derives all its powers, than by any express and direct application of its provisions.

"I do not think that has been overthrown, Mr. President. But

THE SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES.
From an Aguinaldoan point of view.—*The Inquirer, Philadelphia.*

A JOB LOT.

It is considered absolutely necessary that a first-class statesman be sent to Manila to investigate the situation there.—Cablegram.
—*The Republic, St. Louis.*

CARTOONS.

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this is no new doctrine. It was the doctrine of the fathers. It was the doctrine of the men who framed the Constitution. It was the opinion of the man who drafted and procured the adoption of this very clause in the Constitution which provides that Congress may admit new States and make all needful rules and regulations for the government of the territory of the United States. That clause was moved in the federal convention by Gouverneur Morris."

On the subject of annexation and suffrage Mr. Platt expressed views corresponding with those of Professor Judson (see THE LITERARY DIGEST last week), whom he quoted. Replying to Senator Hoar's question whether "governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," Mr. Platt answered, "from the consent of some of the governed," going on to cite the different qualifications for voting which have obtained in States from time to time. He said further:

"I admit that whenever we stipulate in the acquisition of territory with the country from which we acquire it that we will admit it as a State or States into the Union, we are in honor bound, in the performance of that contract, to do everything we can in a preliminary way to fit that Territory and its people for admission as a State. But when that clause is wanting in the treaty, wanting as it is in the Alaska treaty, wanting as it is in the resolution for the annexation of Hawaii, I deny that there is any constitutional or moral obligation to fit the Territory for statehood or ever to admit it as a State. To claim that there is is to deny the inherent sovereign right of this people, this nation, to do what any nation may do anywhere. To do it is to deny that it has the same rights that other sovereign nations have.

"If I have been able to make myself understood, Mr. President—and I fear I have not always—I think I have shown that the power to acquire new territory is inherent and unlimited; that the right to govern is limited only by principle and the treaty agreement upon which alone any obligation to admit it as a State can be based, and that these propositions have been sanctioned by the courts since the foundation of the Government."

Senator Teller followed Mr. Platt in the senatorial debate, taking the same position as Mr. Platt regarding the power of Congress to acquire new possessions, and asserting that as a result of conquest in the war with Spain "it is not necessary that we should have a concession from Spain to say that Cuba is ours, that Puerto Rico is ours, that the Asiatic islands are ours, if we choose to assert our right to hold them." Again:

"I admit when we took Louisiana, and when we took Florida and the regions of California and New Mexico, we did enter into a treaty with the people from whom we acquired those possessions that we would incorporate them as States into the Union ultimately. But if we had elected so to do, we might have held them by conquest, for we had wrested them by force from Mexico, and we agreed with Mexico to make States of them because we thought it would be to our interest to do so. When were we to make States of them? When in our judgment it was proper so to do. Of course we are bound by that treaty in morals, but we are not bound by it in a manner that it could be enforced, and if we should avoid our obligation in that particular, as we have done in the case of the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona for fifty years, we could not be called to account by anybody, and our title is not impaired. It is not possible that our title should depend upon what our intention was at the time we acquired, an intention that ultimately we may change and repudiate."

As to the principle of "the consent of the governed," Mr. Teller maintained that the United States is morally bound not to disregard it, but political rights and privileges must be determined by conditions, in accordance with republican institutions. There are many exceptions to the doctrine:

"We do not in the United States, with all our boasted freedom, allow everybody to participate in the affairs of government. We exclude the alien, we exclude the ignorant and vicious, we exclude women and infants—rightfully, Mr. President, because the principle that the just powers of government are derived from the consent of the governed has always been received everywhere with exceptions. There is no government in the world, and there never has been one, founded upon a strict observance of that declaration, and there can not be.

"Why, Mr. President? Because the interests of the few must give way to the interests of the great mass; because it might be dangerous to the body politic to allow a certain class to participate in the affairs of the government. The disabilities that exist must be disabilities that render them unfit and unsuitable for the discharge of political duties, or else they ought not to be excluded. Such a rule must be applied to everybody subject to such disabilities. We can not allow one citizen with disabilities to participate and another with the same disabilities to be excluded. The rule is applied to all, and that is what we do in this country and what they do in free England. That is what they do in every free government in the world."

Mr. Teller further affirmed his belief in the application to all our recently acquired possessions of the principle enunciated in the joint resolutions of war concerning Cuba:

That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people.

Pertinent to this discussion is the selection and reproduction of the language of a Supreme-Court decision, already quoted in part above, by *The National Corporation Reporter*, Chicago. That paper says:

"A clear and concise exposition of the relations of the national Government to the inhabitants of a Territory of the United States was delivered by Mr. Justice Mathews, in Murphy *vs.* Ramsay, 114 U. S., 15. The question is no longer open to controversy, and has passed into final judgment. It is of exceeding interest at the present time, in view of the Greater United States:

"'The people of the United States, as sovereign owners of the national Territories, have supreme power over them and their inhabitants. In the exercise of this sovereign dominion, they are represented by the Government of the United States, to whom all powers of government over that subject have been delegated, subject only to such restrictions as are expressed in the Constitution, or are necessarily implied in its terms or in the purposes and objects of the power itself; for it may well be admitted in respect to this, as to every power of society over its members, that it is not absolute and unlimited. But, in ordaining government for the Territories and the people who inhabit them, all the discretion which belongs to legislative power is vested in Congress: and that extends, beyond all controversy, to determining by law, from time to time, the form of the local government in a particular Territory, and the qualifications of those who shall administer it. It rests with Congress to say whether, in a given case, any of the people resident in the Territory shall participate in the election of its officers or the making of its laws; and it may therefore take from them any right of suffrage it may previously have conferred, or at any time modify or abridge it as it may deem expedient. The right of the local self-government, as known to our system as a constitutional franchise, belongs, under the Constitution, to the States and to the people thereof, by whom that Constitution was ordained, and to whom, by its terms, all power not conferred by it upon the Government of the United States was expressly reserved. The personal and civil rights of the inhabitants of the Territories are secured to them, as to other citizens, by the principles of the constitutional liberty, which restrain all the agencies of government, state and national. Their political rights are franchises which they hold as privileges in the legislative discretion of the Congress o the United States."

A SOCIALIST MAYOR'S PROGRAM.

JOHN C. CHASE, candidate of the Social Democracy, of which Mr. Debs is a leading organizer, was elected mayor of Haverhill, Mass., last month, and took office January 2. Haverhill is a city of about 35,000 inhabitants, and Mr. Chase received a majority of about 350 votes. The Social Democracy elected six out of twenty-one members of the city councils, and the Haverhill district sent two Social-Democrats to the state legislature.

Since Mr. Chase is the first avowed "Socialist" mayor in the United States, considerable interest attaches to his declarations of policy. One of his first reported acts was the placing of his resignation in the hands of the local Social-Democratic organization, to be accepted in case he fails to live up to party faith. In the organization of the city government by the councils, the minority of Social-Democrats were easily defeated, and it remains to be seen how far the mayor's recommendations may be accepted by the councilmen.

Mayor Chase's inaugural address, as printed in the Haverhill

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Gazette, contains the following pronouncements and recommendations:

"American municipalities have long been the despair of good citizens. I believe that Socialism holds the key to American municipal problems. Let us then shake off prejudice and give to the world that large measure of demonstration which will not only prove beneficial to our own municipality, but will also inspire others to follow where it is our privilege to lead. I make the assertion that private ownership of the means of production, distribution, and communication is responsible for the insecurity of subsistence and the poverty, misery, and degradation of the ever-growing majority of our people, and that the liberty and happiness of every man, woman, and child are conditioned upon equal political and economic rights, possible of attainment only through the establishment of the cooperative commonwealth. While it is not possible for any municipality to guarantee to its citizens all their economic rights, I believe that much can be accomplished in this direction, and that every power the municipality possesses should be placed at the disposal of the people in the interest of civilization, that mankind may progress to a grander and nobler life. With that aim in view I submit the following specific recommendations:

"First. The passage of an order establishing the minimum wage for street employees at two dollars for eight hours' work.

"Second. Union wages and conditions to prevail in all brick and stone masons' work performed under the direction of the Street Department.

"Third. All city printing to bear the union label.

"With the development of machinery there follows the displacement of labor, and the concentration of capital forces into the ranks of the working class those of the middle class economically unable to compete with the gigantic combinations of capital that are the feature of America's industrial life. From these sources there has come a class previously unknown in society—the unemployed, whose existence can not be denied, and whose rights as human beings require the formulation of some immediate plan for their relief. While no municipality can hope to solve this grave problem, it being a national and even an international one, yet some little relief at least can be afforded by this city government. I therefore recommend:

"First. That you proceed to secure a tract of land suitable for the raising of food-products, and that such of the unemployed as desire be permitted to use said land, the city to furnish proper seeds and tools.

"Second. The enlargement of the fuely-ard at the city farm to such proportions as will permit all who desire to earn by their labor such fuel as they may require.

"Third. The appropriation of such an amount of money as circumstances may warrant, to be used in providing employment directly upon public works, not in competition with the regular employees of the city, but upon special works, two kinds of which I herewith suggest:

"First. Improvement of the park system, particularly about Lake Kenoza.

"Second. Construction of a system of bicycle paths through all principal thoroughfares."

Mayor Chase opposes contract labor for city work, and favors municipal ownership and operation of all public utilities such as street railroads, gas and electric-light plants. He gives figures, points to the saving of $12,000 a year by Haverhill's ownership of the water-works, and recommends an increase in the number of street-railway cars run, with running privileges for existing suburban lines on tracks within the city. He favors steps to abolish grade crossings; the election of tax assessors who will show no partiality; the furnishing of food and clothing "to those [school] children whose parents are unable to provide for them"; the construction and control of a municipal conduit for all telephone, telegraph, and electric wires, and the passage of an order by both branches of the city government "making all sessions public and abolishing secret balloting in the city council, and that public record be kept of the vote of each member on all questions." He proposes the following city charter amendments:

"First. Absolute home rule for our municipality in all matters not conflicting with equal rights of other cities.

"Second. The adoption of the initiative and referendum.

"Third. Proportional representation.

"Fourth. The imperative mandate or the right of recall of officials by their constituency.

"Fifth. The right to own and operate all public utilities.

"Sixth. The election of the superintendent of streets by the people."

The Haverhill *Gazette* (Rep.), in commenting upon the mayor's message, congratulates him on "saying what he means and meaning what he says," discounts his declaration regarding equality as "a mere glittering generality," and concludes an enumeration of the recommendations by saying:

"All the reforms above outlined will cost money; a lot of money; more money than a horse can haul down-hill. Of course this money will have to be raised by taxation largely in excess of the sum now annually paid in, and against which so many complaints are already made. What the city government will do is of course problematical, but it is dollars to doughnuts that, with the exception of a ripple here and there upon the surface of municipal life, things will move along in the same old way. Many of Mayor Chase's recommendations smack too strongly of a tendency to provide for the lame and the lazy to find much favor in this thriving New England city."

Among the comments occasioned by the election of Mr. Chase are the following:

An Experiment in Socialism.—"Staid and conservative Massachusetts is about to furnish the country an illustration of a city governed by Socialistic principles, so far at least as its mayor can have his way. . . . Mr. Chase, the mayor-elect, is president of the Haverhill Cooperative Society and is an ardent believer in the doctrines of his party.

"The peculiar thing about Mayor Chase's administration promises to be his manner of making appointments, or rather of determining who shall be appointed. He proposes to apply the referendum principle, so to speak, in making his appointments; or as he is quoted as saying: 'All those seeking official position by appointment by the mayor will be obliged to receive the indorsement of the local branch of the Social Democracy.'

"The people of Haverhill have therefore elected the local organization of the Socialist Party to be mayor. Mr. Chase will hold the office *de jure*, and the 'local branch' will hold it *de facto*. The mayor will sink his individual opinion and simply act as agent for 'the branch.' Candidates for the appointive positions in Haverhill will not necessarily have to meet the approval of the mayor in order to win the coveted prize. If they can manage to secure the support of 'the branch' they can bid defiance to the mayor.

"If this is the sort of mayor that the people of Haverhill want, why, of course, that is their affair, and no other city will be disposed to object. In fact, other cities will look with interest on this experiment in Socialism. If the 'local branch' makes a glittering success of its appointive efforts, other municipalities may adopt the same principle. But if it degenerates into a political ring or a mere dispenser and absorber of the spoils of office, Haverhill's object-lesson in Socialism will be disastrous to the cause. Students of new isms in municipal government will watch the Massachusetts experiment with considerable interest."—*The Free Press* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Detroit*.

No Cause for Apprehension.—"The election of a Socialist mayor in an American city would ordinarily be an occasion for comment, not unmixed, perhaps, with apprehension. But in this case there is no cause for apprehension, altho the political victory of the Socialists included the election of three Socialist aldermen and three Socialist councilmen.

"This queer event in Haverhill was due to an unfortunate division in the ranks of the Republicans. [Mr. Chase's predecessor was a Democrat.—*Editor* LITERARY DIGEST.] The result would have been changed had there been but one Republican candidate in the field. The Republican Party is now the sole bulwark against Socialism in every voting constituency. The Democratic Party is a barrier of resistance no longer; and, the Republicans being divided, the Socialists, with the aid of many Democratic recruits, won the election.

"We observe that Haverhill had, by the last federal census, the distinction of being the only city in Massachusetts in which a majority of the foreign-born inhabitants were French-Canadian."—*The Sun* (*Rep.*), *New York*.

Socialists Much Like Other Men.—"The election of a Socialist mayor and members of both branches of the city council will no doubt be heralded over the country, causing no little elation among Socialistic sympathizers and among conservatives no small degree of alarm; but it is by no means certain that the election of municipal officers in Haverhill, any more than the election of two Socialist members to the legislature, will inure greatly to the promotion of that cause. The Socialist is very much like other men. Give him the opportunity to speak freely, but to men who are not disposed to regard him as an oracle, and give him responsibility, and it is not long before he begins to weigh his words and to be careful of his actions. It is not at all unlikely that after a while he will develop into an extreme conservative. His elevation to public service will have made him a safer citizen, as it has opened his eyes to the fact that it is one thing to criticize and quite another to administer the affairs of government, and it tends to the discouragement of Socialism in the fact that it shows that when theories are put into practise they are sometimes apt to prove false."—*The Transcript* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Boston*.

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PHASES OF THE PROBLEM OF CUBAN RECONSTRUCTION.

LIGHT on certain phases of the problem of reconstructing Cuba under United States rule appears in an article by Col. Richard J. Hinton. Colonel Hinton, who was for eight months a member of General Gomez's staff during the ten-years' war, has become further familiar with conditions in Cuba in two subsequent visits, lastly as an official of the Red Cross during the war just ended. Previous experience as a prominent engineering expert in the era of development of the trans-Mississippi region lends weight to his opinions concerning the Cuban problem.

Regarding Cuba's natural capacities for development Colonel Hinton first says:

"The island of Cuba will support in comfort ten million persons. It has never maintained one fifth of that number. Its commercial possibilities are even greater, judged by the rules of wealth-making only. It has an area of over 28,000,000 acres, estimating therein the islets that form part of its economic area. Not over 6,000,000 have even been scratched by the hands or tools of industry, as plantation, farm, cattle range, timber camp, or mine. There are 16,000,000 acres of the finest of timber, holding at least forty varieties of the best of merchantable hardwoods. There are 3,000,000 acres of available rice lands. The timber area may also be used for cattle-range purposes. Mineral resources are still virgin, but they are known to be of great value. In Santiago de Cuba $12,000,000 of American capital is invested in mining alone. In the production of all food crops of a marked commercial value, the possibilities of Cuba are limited only by its acreage. It has no capital at command, however. Its people are literally stripped to the bone, and many thousands remain in daily danger of death from very hunger."

Recent loss in life and in the means of existence in Cuba is indictated by the following statements:

"It has been assumed by pro-Spanish authorities that 60 per cent. of whites and 15 per cent. of the colored population have died since the civil war began in 1895. This does not consider the losses in Spanish troops, estimated at 125,000. Taking the census of 1887 as a basis, this would involve, outside the troops, a loss of 444,522 white and of 77,050 colored persons. By this estimate, however, the Havanese editors leave the latter more numerous now than the whites. But the total of 521,572 deaths through the reconcentrado policy, within two years, is a terrible indictment. Adding the 200,000 loss on both sides, through the civil conflict, within four years, and the anti-Cuban estimate reduces the total population by 721,000 at least. The estimates of Cuban authorities, as given to the writer in October last, reduce this total to an average loss in the island of 34 per cent., or a total of about 640,000 persons.

"This loss is much greater in the sugar and tobacco-growing sections than in the small-crop farm and cattle-range areas. But for this fact the whites of Cuba would now be much less in number than the negro and mestizo classes. In Santiago, Puerto Principe, eastern Santa Clara, and Pinar del Rio, the colored inhabitants were, when insurgent operations began, 225,000 against 500,000 whites. In the central provinces the difference was as two whites to one colored. In the first division, the ratio is now about two to one, and in the second the colors and races are nearly equal; a small majority being still found on the side of the whites.

"To this state of affairs as to population, add the fact that there is no island money to set business in motion; that food crops are not cultivated to anything like a necessary extent; that seeds, tools, machinery, cattle, and other essentials are lacking. Medical supplies are absent, and the service is therefore as scant. The people can not get work until food shall give them strength. Women and children especially will perish by the thousands before relief shall alleviate their distress and the restoration of industry fully rehabilitate Cuban life. This is work for statesmanship. Investment must be made beneficent also."

Colonel Hinton believes, however, that the very steps our Government must take in preparing the way for Cuban self-government "will rapidly both lighten and simplify our task and at the same time greatly aid and encourage the Cuban people." He estimates that our governmental *régime* will at once reduce general taxation by $15,000,000 a year. Other taxes, amounting to more than $22,000,000 per year, will be reduced 50 per cent. by our system of local government. Colonel Hinton emphasizes the fact that the native inhabitants desire education and that the readjustment will bring several millions of acres under the designation of public lands. He notes that the system of sugar plantations, which is not inviting to laborers, has been practically destroyed by Weyler's policy. Plantation hands have been scattered widely, and therein the future of republican Cuba has been made brighter. For, instead of a return to plantations which would keep sugar-planting as the foremost industry of the island, Colonel Hinton predicts a growth of squatters and independent farmers producing coffee, cocoa, rice, fruits, fibers, tobacco, etc., valuable for export. He adds:

"The development of mining, cattle-growing and its related occupations, and of the great timber resources of Cuba, will demand a large amount of labor. The island population is not over 20 to the square mile. The railroad mileage is but 1 in 37, and the telegraph mileage only 1 in 17 square miles. There are not 500 miles of decent highways in the whole island. In her days of commercial prosperity, the ports of Cuba received about 2,000 ships, having a tonnage of 2,500,000 tons. The traffic of 1898 would not exceed one twentieth thereof."

Of special interest at the present moment is Colonel Hinton's estimate of the various elements making up the population of Cuba, from which we quote at some length:

"The division of the population will usually be made by us on the basis of color, but that is entirely misleading as to results. There is no such thing there as a race issue. A very persistent effort has recently been made to make it appear as if there were one, just as there has been also an attempt to produce the impression that an hostility exists among the former Cuban soldiery against the United States and its people. We need not go far to find the genesis of these statements, but it is difficult to comprehend why so many in our midst should have given them persistent currency. Their origin was Spanish; their promulgation due to commercial and color prejudice combined. In so saying, I am guided by the fact, known to all students of Cuban matters, that one of the most unfair elements in the affairs of that island and our relations therewith has been for the past forty years the American money invested in Cuban sugar-plantations. But recently, a Cuban of culture and education—a graduate, too, of one of our scientific schools of high repute—declared to me that it was American money that resisted the emancipation of their slaves, and that the same influence had always opposed Cuban freedom at Washington and in the American press. It must be confessed that the misrepresentation of Cuban character, as this writer sees it, which has followed our war record, gives force to this statement.

"The traditional Spaniard, as such, will not be a source of much division in Cuba. More than half of that part of its population had become seriously disaffected by the ferocious brutality of the men in command. Nativity made for nothing in the Weyler slaughter. All were treated alike, unless the men chose to wear the Spanish uniform, and then they only suffered longer. The trading people, largely of Spanish birth, grew discontented during the year past. Then it has remained true that all persons born and reared in Cuba have been at heart, and generally bitterly so, anti-Spanish in feeling. The professional, teaching, and literary class are usually Cuban by birth and sympathy. The younger ones are largely American by education. The farming class, especially the tobacco-growers and exporters, the men of the small farms and the cattle ranges, are almost wholly Cuban. The skilled wage and day-labor classes are native. The negroes, mulattoes, and mestizoes are of course Cubans, with such exceptions only as prove the rule. And a great proportion of the planter families, long established in the island, cultured, refined, Spanish in their fine manners and proud natures, are thoroughly Cuban in political character and opinion. It is from this class that the patriots Cespedes, Agramonte, Aguone, Cisneros, Garcia, and others known to recent history, have come. It must be borne in mind, also, that the mestizoes are not separable from the general

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body of the white Cubans. Nobody resident in the island ever makes any such distinction. Their families are the admixtures of the older white and African stock. In the negro-labor population, the mulatto proper has a distinct but not unfriendly place.

"The aristocracy or exclusive class will be made up of Spaniards who remain because of property interests, the banking and richer commercial elements, largely European, but only partially Spanish, the clergy who may remain, with the wealthier planters, and those dependent on them for direct personal employment and patronage. This analysis shows that the outlook as to population and its character is decidedly favorable to steady life and an assured, if moderate, progress to better conditions.

"Everywhere the grateful feelings of the Cuban people toward Americans in general are unrestrainedly present. Everywhere, too, the business men, whether Spaniards or Cuban, are eager to welcome the restful interregnum we bring. Everywhere the desire to learn our language is so eager that it has its humorous aspects. The Cuban insurgents have borne their part in the waiting with a degree of manly patience that the more it is recognized the deeper will be the gratification aroused thereby. They have been educating themselves for citizenship by building and maintaining for three years past, over a considerable segment of the island, a rude but effective form of local administration and civil life. They have maintained courts, established workshops, cultivated great bodies of land, kept their soldiery in the field, founded common schools, and printed books therefor. In all this they have had no aid, as was afforded elsewhere in other Latin-American struggles, from the clergy. It is asserted that there are not a dozen natives among the clerics on the island.

"There are other issues buried probably in the graves of Antonio Maceo and José Marti, who both held to the idea of a West Indian republic under federal relations. It is quite certain that these two men were of the largest natural ability found among the Cuban leaders, and that they agreed as to the ideals for which they were working. Marti was the Cuban's Mazzini; Maceo the mestizo's Toussaint L'Ouverture. Both were believers in an independent Cuba, and therein Gomez agreed with them; both hoped for the growth of a West Indian island federation, in which race issues would be solved under growing industry and the molding attraction of justice.

"This review of existing conditions in Cuba will illustrate that there is nothing inherently incurable in the present or prospective situation. It only appears so to those who think, perhaps, of New England, or want the power of New York City suddenly developed in the Antilles. But the thoughtful reader, who rationally seeks to put himself in the other man's place, will see that the Cuban—white or colored—is facile and available, willing to labor and responsive to fair dealing. To his credit always it must be remembered that he has unflinchingly borne the burden of resistance to oppression, and worn its sacrificial sufferings without undue complaint. The Cubans are not quarrelsome among themselves. That, the fact of their last thirty years of combining and fighting must establish. They are not revengeful either, and bear little malice toward the mass of those who have ill-used them. Indeed, the feeling of a true democracy, scientific in its deductions, dwells within their known views. The leaders recognize that the masses are mainly molded in and by systems. Individuals are often responsible for special crimes or policy; the community acts as administrative machinery operates, until its grinding power becomes intolerable. The Spaniard, who remains to work with them, they know must be lifted up, not beaten down. And this I have found generally accepted among the Cubans. There are some, of course, who by temperament or spiritual insight are malcontent. The world's conditions create such unrest. But in Cuba there are few. It depends largely upon our acts whether they grow more numerous."

Hawaiian View of Republican Suffrage Policy.—Discussing the property qualification for suffrage proposed by the Hawaiian Commission in its plan for governing the Hawaiian Islands, *The Hawaiian Gazette*, Honolulu, says:

"The most interesting point developed in the despatch [outlining recommendations] is the resolution of the commission to maintain in the organic law the property qualification for suffrage. As a majority of the congressional commission are Republicans, it indicates that the party is willing to establish a property qualification in the territorial form of government. The principle boldly maintained in the reconstruction of the Southern States, that the negro, however ignorant, should vote on equal terms with the white man, is now abandoned. Thirty years of experience with the negro, as an 'equal citizen,' has converted even his strongest political friends to the belief that he can not discharge the duties of good citizenship. Even tho it is given to him by the federal Constitution, the Republican Party shows no disposition to aid him. The Government sees the negro driven out of power in North Carolina with shotguns, without attempting to interfere.

"The Republican Party will not, in executing its policy of expansion, cling to the obsolete doctrine of self-government, because it is not a doctrine of universal application. After the Civil War, no men shouted so loudly about the rights of manhood suffrage, and the wickedness of depriving the negro of his vote, as did the leaders of the Republican Party. Within a few years they nearly succeeded in passing the force bill in the interests of the negro. The new light has changed public opinion.

"Placing a property qualification on the vote of the people of this territory is merely a sign of the 'expanding' thought of the Republican Party."

PROTECTION FOR BOTH COTTON AND WOOL.

ARE wool- and cotton-growers likely to combine to secure protective duties? Concerted action is suggested by William Lawrence, of Ohio, president of the National Wool-Growers' Association, who publishes a sharp attack on the wool schedule of the Dingley tariff act in the (December) *Shepherd's Bulletin*, organ of the association. The article is entitled "An Appeal to Wool-Growers, the Cotton-Planters, and Other Farmers of the United States." President Lawrence asserts that the Dingley law has given prosperity to all industries except those connected with agriculture, and he goes into details to show that sheep husbandry needs better protection. Briefly, his complaint is that agricultural industries are not prosperous; that members of Congress and even many farmers were mistaken as to the effect of imports of third-class wools, "improperly called 'carpet wools'"; and that the imports of third-class wools are more ruinous to American wool-growers than all others. Among the statements made under these heads are the following:

"Cotton with plantation value below 5 cents per pound, is lower than at any former period. The farm values in Ohio are now for fat hogs, $3 per hundred; fat cattle, $4 per hundred; wheat, 65 cents per bushel; corn, 25 cents; oats, 20 cents; hay, $5 per ton. These are prices, aided by the fact that the cattle and sheep supply of the United States in numbers is below the normal, which result in moderately fair prices just now for mutton sheep. But the farm value of wool is absolutely ruinous to wool-growers. . . . . .

"The scoured basis of wool at 50 cents is only equal to about 17 cents for fine unwashed, estimating shrinkage of unwashed merino at 66 per cent., and this leaves ranch value only about 14 cents. These prices are monstrously inadequate. Ohio and similar merino can not be produced to give fair compensation for less than 25 cents unwashed farm value or 75 clean. Texas and Territory merino wools unwashed can not be produced for less than 20 cents ranch value or 60 cents clean. Ohio and similar wools are more valuable than Territory wools. . . . . .

"It is a mockery, a delusion, to talk of prosperity for wool-growers unless prices are increased, and this can only be done by an improvement in the low, inadequate Dingley wool tariff. . . . Wool-growers can not and will not long continue to endure the vile, iniquitous, and unjust discrimination made by the Dingley law against them, and in favor of New England manufacturers."

President Lawrence refers to what he accomplished when the Dingley law was framed:

"I was permitted to be heard before the Senate committee on finance, in opposition to the *ad-valorem* duties on third-class wool as advocated by General Grosvenor, and as provided for in

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the Dingley bill as it passed the House, and in favor of better protection for wool generally. The result was that the *ad-valorem* duties of the bill were rejected, and specific duties on third-class wools provided of 4 cents on wools of the value of 12 cents per pound, and on wools exceeding 12 cents a duty of 7 cents, but of course, the 'dividing line' of 12 cents makes the duty in a measure *ad valorem*, but better still than the duties of advocated by General Grosvenor."

Nevertheless, Mr. Lawrence points out that "the wool-growers were met in the new law with the ruinous provision in the Dingley law, that these wools may be imported at these low, inadequate rates 'skirted,' 'sorted,' and even scoured without additional duty. And all duties on all wools are inadequate with the fraudulent 'skirting clause,' and other loopholes for fraud which make the nominal duties in practical effect less than half the apparent rate." He continues:

"The imports of raw wool in the three ports of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia for the fiscal year 1898 were as follows:

	Pounds.	Average import price per pound about.
Class one	44,377,641	16.5 cents.
Class two	3,148,350	21.4 "
Class three	82,556,830	9.0 "
Totals	130,082,821	

"These imports are for the year ended June 30, 1898. Thus the imports of third-class wools for the last fiscal year were nearly double the amount of all others. And as this wool will shrink in scouring less than 30 per cent., while average American merino will shrink 66 per cent., the nominal import price of 9 cents per pound is less than 5 cents in competition with average American merino, and the nominal duty of 4 cents is in competition with merino less than 2 cents. So far as these wools are used in the manufacture of carpets, which are in some measure luxuries not so essential as clothing, there is no reason why they should not pay the same or even a higher rate of duty than on other wools. Not more than 50,000,000 pounds of wool are annually used in the manufacture of carpets. Thus by far the largest part of the imports of this third-class wool are used in the manufacture of clothing and other goods, having the doubly ruinous effect of (1) supplanting the use of American merino and long wools and (2) of reducing the price to the low level which these and all our wools now bear. When manufacturers can buy these wools at this low price, they will not buy merino or long wools except at very low prices.

"This is especially so since, under the Dingley law, they may be imported, skirted, sorted, and thus the best parts of the fleeces imported suitable for clothing purposes. . . . . .

"Merino wools have actually been exported recently to England, thus (1) reducing alike the price in foreign markets for all wools, and (2) reacting to reduce still lower the price of all wools here. . . . . .

"These third-class wools are so clean and of such light shrinkage that the imports of the fiscal year 1898 of 82,556,830 pounds are equal to all 200,000,000 pounds of average American unwashed merino, shrinking in scouring 66 per cent. . . . . .

"In view of all this, the same rates of duty should be imposed on third-class wools as on other classes."

"If improved protection be not given to the wool industry, what then?" asks President Lawrence. His answer we quote at length:

"If 'full and adequate protection' be given to the wool industry, then the pledge made by the Republican national platform of 1896 will be redeemed. If not, the pledge will be dishonorably violated and 'the way of the [political] transgressor will be hard.'

"1. Prosperity will follow ample wool protection.

"If the pledge be fulfilled, prosperity will come to all our industries. Soon there will be added to our flocks 70,000,000 sheep, making an increased demand for pasturage, hay, oats, and corn. Prices will improve and American farmers will prosper. An increase of sheep in the Southern States will supply needed cheap meat food. The acreage of cotton can be reduced, overproduction cease, and normal fair prices for raw cotton be restored.

"Capt. S. W. Everett, of Atlanta, recently said:

The trouble is just this: Georgia depends on cotton for prosperity. When the prices of that staple are high, business thrives, and vice versa. Business will never be good in our State until the price is much better than now. When I tell you that 75 per cent. of the business is based on cotton, you will understand how true this is. Cotton is now selling very cheap. Two years ago a good bale would bring from $25 to $27.50. Now it brings from $17.50 to $20. This makes a big difference.

"2. The wool-growers invite the cotton-planters to unite with them in demanding protection for cotton and wool.

"In a recent editorial in the Charleston, S. C., *News and Courier*, it was said, in substance, that if the policy of protection is to prevail, protection should be given to raw cotton as well as on other products. The wool-growers invite cooperation.

"3. The money question.

"Prosperity secured through ample protection will soon settle the money question. Theodore Justice has said that free silver means 'a premium of 50 per cent. or more on gold, which would be equivalent to that much tariff protection.' . . . A protection of 50 per cent. that can not be evaded is better than the nominal Dingley tariff rates, which are not in practical operation equal to so much as that, and which are evaded, especially the duty on third-class wools, with its 'dividing-line valuation' thus made *ad valorem*. It will be wise and just to fulfil the pledge of 'the most ample protection for wool' and this will settle questions that it may not be judicious to carry into the next Presidential election."

The American Wool and Cotton Reporter, Boston, makes editorial comment, under the heading "The Dishonest Wool Duties," as follows:

"Elsewhere in this issue will be found a complete statement by Judge Lawrence of his plans for a more thorough schedule of duties upon wool, and for such a union with cotton-growers who desire a duty upon cotton as shall promote their mutual interests. Such a program will undoubtedly arouse much hostility, but the blame for it rests mainly with William Whitman and his lobbyist, S. N. D. North. When the present Dingley tariff law was framed, North was employed to secure the adoption of certain phraseology in Whitman's interest as usual, and after the law was adopted he was given his price of $5,000 outside of his salary without the general knowledge of members of the so-called 'National Association of Wool Manufacturers,' from whom he received a further salary of $6,000 per annum as secretary.

"It is claimed that the special $5,000 honorarium to North was an act of charity, because he needed it to educate his children; but the fact that certain phrases of the tariff law were arranged by North in behalf of certain branches of the wool industry and against certain other branches, has caused a great deal of soreness, to which is added some distrust respecting the special $5,000 present. There has not been an honest schedule of wool and woolen duties since Mr. Whitman got control of the so-called 'National Association of Wool Manufacturers' in 1882, and subsequently employed S. N. D. North as his lobbyist.

"Hence Judge Lawrence and his associates, feeling that they have been played with, defrauded, and outraged, are in a destructive frame of mind, and the gap between wool-growers and manufacturers can only be narrowed by the withdrawal of any approval of North and Whitman and their schemes, and by the adoption of a fair ratio between the crude, the semi-crude, and the finished products of the woolen industry. Any other course will result in the destruction of the entire protective system."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

ETERNAL vigilance is the price at which a city can hold its own property.—*The Herald, Peoria, Ill.*

THE year 1899 may be even more interesting than 1898. No one should miss it.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

HOW would Bryan and Carnegie do for 1900 and the campaign cry, "Hoot, mon, shut the door"?—*The Star, Kansas City.*

THE job of dealing out the blessings of civilization would be simplified somewhat if the Filipinos would stand in line and wait their turn.—*The Tribune, Detroit.*

IT may be all right to send the public money from Santiago to Havana and then send it back again, but Philadelphia's experience from Harrisburg in that line does not predispose it to favor the policy.—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

THE NEW "KING OF POETS," MALLARMÉ'S SUCCESSOR.

THE throne of the king of French poets, rendered vacant by the death of Stéphane Mallarmé, has been filled again by the suffrage of the poets. Some questioned the necessity and importance of a head for the poetic realm, but the Paris *Temps*, finding an interregnum demoralizing and intolerable, and fearful of poetic anarchy, called for an election, with the result that Léon Dierx received a decisive majority of votes. His rival candidates were: De Heredia, Moreas, de Penier, and Sully-Prudhomme. Nineteen poets cast blank ballots. The result is considered binding, however, and France and the world thus have a new king of poets. But who is Léon Dierx, and what are his claims? The *Journal des Débats* furnishes certain information in regard to his literary career and standing, which we condense as follows:

The new king was known to a small circle of readers at the time of his election. He is sixty years old, yet two little volumes of verse represent all his literary labors. The title of one volume is "Poèmes et Poésies," and of the other "Les Paroles du Vaincu." The friends of Dierx call him "the last of the Parnassians." He belongs to the group of poets who, after 1860, gathered around Lecomte de Lisle and followed him as master and guide. They worshiped but one goddess—beauty. They lived in complete isolation from the world—in a marble temple, as it were, always harping on golden strings. The present appeared to them misty, colorless, and gloomy, the past bright and sunlit and joyous. In their imaginations they loved to dwell in ancient Greece or in the Orient. Their poetry was a protest against the tendencies of the latter-day romanticists, those whose present representatives are led by Edmond Rostand. Everything in the work of these Parnassians is absolute symmetry and harmony, polished beauty and purity. And throughout there is the recurrent plaint of the vanished world of the gods. Léon Dierx called them "the martyrs of beauty trampled under foot by the ugliness of the present." He himself is distinctly a Parnassian by virtue of form as well as thought. He shows the influence of Hugo, Gautier, de Lisle, and Baudelaire, but the predominant note of his poetry is pessimism. According to him and the other Parnassians, art is the crown of human effort, the highest aim and glory. Art is placed even above nature, for the inexorable laws of nature must yield to the free whims of the creative artistic genius.

In one of his characteristic poems the new "king" portrays a man silently standing on the seashore and sadly contemplating the setting of the sun, its disappearance in the waves. This man is the representative of the present time. He has no ideals, no hope, and denies everything. He has realized the futility of struggling, and submits without protest; for him there is no paradise; the sun has set forever.

Another characteristic poem is very striking. It is entitled "Le Rendez-Vous," and it tells of the lord of a great castle who daily expects guests who never come. The castle is decorated; the halls are illuminated; the servants placed along the broad stairways, but the preparations are in vain. Finally, one night the guests arrive—but they are all dead. They give their names: Joy, Hope, Love, Faith, Fame, Peace, and Happiness. In this world of the dead the poet alone preserves his pride, his melancholy serenity. Again, the poet compares himself to a solitary ship, abandoned by every sailor and drifting on the wide sea.

Apart from this pessimism and despair, there is little in the poetry of the new king to attract the decadents and the symbolists. But there is enough in his aristocratic esthetics and pessimism to recommend him to the followers of Mallarmé and continue the traditions of the office.

It is the opinion of the *Journal des Débats* that the election of a modest and little-known poet as king is further intended to emphasize the independence of the poets of the vulgar reading public, to prove that not general fame, but supreme merit recognized by the competent few, determines permanent rank. It is intended to teach the multitude to defer to the judgment of the poets and respect the authority of genius.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

BOYISH SIDE OF AUBREY BEARDSLEY.

THE name of this wonderful and precocious young artist, who in spite of his premature death (see LITERARY DIGEST, April 16 and June 11, 1898) has revealed new possibilities for an art conceived as pure line, calls up in the minds of most readers a conception of a thoroughly unwholesome and abnormal personality. It is interesting to compare with this impression the following sympathetic sketch of the artist from the pen of Henry Harland (*The Academy*, December 10):

"I wonder whether people who know Aubrey Beardsley only through his work ever realize how young he was. When the world first began to talk of him—when Mr. Pennell first wrote of him in the *Studio*, and Mr. Dent undertook the publication of his first book, the 'Morte d'Arthur'—Aubrey was not yet one-and-twenty. He was barely five-and-twenty when he died. And at the moment of his utmost celebrity, when the world was talking loudest of him, during the winter of 1894–95, he was twenty-two.

"For my part, I could only think of him, I can only remember him, as a boy. Oh, a marvelously precocious boy, a boy who had read, observed, reflected—a boy (as a great critic said of him) who had found a 'short cut' to the mastery of his art—a boy of genius indeed, but still a boy, and a singularly bright, frank, boyish boy at that. He had all a boy's freshness, enthusiasm, exuberance, all a boy's eagerness and relish for the fun and the romance and the pleasantness of life. His enjoyment of things—his enjoyment of books, pictures, music, of the opera, the play; his enjoyment of London and Paris, of the London streets and the Paris streets, their beauty, their action and suggestion; his enjoyment of people, of conversation, of human sympathy and intercourse; his enjoyment of his own gifts, his own achievements, and of his success, the recognition he had won—it was boyish, boyish; it was fresh and young and eager. He had a boy's curiosity, a boy's craving for adventure, experience, and a boy's capacity for seeing the elements of adventure in the simplest doings—that is to say, a boy's imagination. A little dinner at a restaurant, an hour spent in a café—nay, even a ride on the top of an omnibus, or a walk in Kensington Gardens—held, for his unspoiled imagination, the elements of adventure. Taking his house in Cambridge street, furnishing and decorating it—that was a great adventure. Starting the 'Yellow Book' with me, and afterward the 'Savoy' with Arthur Symonds—those were tremendous, breathless adventures. And he had a boy's fondness for a 'lark,' a boy's playfulness, mischief. He loved a romp, a masquerade, a harmless practical joke. One evening I was seated in my study, when the servant brought a visiting-card, on which was written, 'Miss Tibbett and Master Tibbett.' I went into the drawing-room, and there was Miss Beardsley with a tall boy in an Eton jacket. The tall boy in the Eton jacket—Master Tibbett, if you please—was Aubrey, jubilant, laughing for delight in his own prank.

"He had a boy's playfulness, mischievousness. And when I hear honest folk deploring, horror-struck, the quality in his work which it has been the fashion somewhat cheaply to describe as 'decadent'—when I hear them crying out, 'Ah, yes, monstrous clever, certainly; but so immoral, so depraved!'—I, who knew the boy, can only shake my head and smile. For I know that what they hold up their hands at, as depraved, immoral, was nothing more than the mischievous humor, or, if you like, the deviltry, of the boy—who, boylike, loved to give Solemnity a shock. I do not say that it would not have been better if, in his work, he had restrained this mischievous humor; but I do say that it was nothing worse than mischievous humor. If Aubrey had lived, he *would* have restrained it; or, rather, he would have outgrown it, he would have left it behind him. He would have sown his wild oats, and had done with them.

"For the man in Aubrey Beardsley, the man as distinguished from the boy, the man the boy was developing into—*had* developed into during the last sad year of his life—was a man of very deep and serious feelings, of very high and earnest aims. Aubrey

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Beardsley's temperament was essentially the religious temperament. A hundred times, in a hundred ways, one felt that this was so; one would even tell him to his face that it was so—at which he would perhaps laugh a little, quietly, gently, a laugh that was by no means a disavowal. And just at the threshold of that last sad year, he acknowledged that it was so; he became a Catholic. He became beautifully, serenely devout—not in any morbid or effeminate sense, but in the right sense, the wholesome, manly sense. His heart, his life, were filled with the joy and the love it is the merit of the Supreme faith to bestow. In all his wretched bodily suffering, at Bournemouth, at Dieppe, and in the end at Mentone, he had that to help him."

In the space of a very short time three Beardsley books are upon us. Mr. Arthur Symonds has written an appreciative monograph; Mr. Robert Ross has prefixed "The Eulogy of Aubrey Beardsley" to a new edition of Ben Jonson's "Volpone," illustrated by half a dozen of the artist's drawings; and a collection of Beardsley's pictures is being published with a critical introduction by Mr. Marillier.

SOME RECENT LITERATURE IN FRANCE.

MR. EDMUND GOSSE, in a casual summary of what is being read and written in Paris at this moment, is struck by the small place taken by poetry, history, and biography, and he sees in this literary barrenness a result of the distracting elements at work in the domestic polity of France. The French novel he finds in a very curious transitional state, the old standards of fiction disappearing and the new not yet crystallized. The immediate result of this change is an extraordinary anarchy of taste, which obscures the trend of narrative art. After speaking of a new writer, M. Lucien Muhlfeld, and the Academician, M. André Theuriet, Mr. Gosse goes on to say (*The Contemporary Review*, December):

"These are in the conservative camp; on the other hand, the young novelists outdo one another in studies either of barbaric violence or else of gross and abject egotism—revolt against civilized prejudice, and a profound clinical examination of the 'Moi' being the two themes on which the variants are mostly rung. These sketchy, experimental books, which often stand scarcely within the recognized frontiers of fiction, sometimes present features of a curious intellectual subtlety, but are usually of a kind not safely to be recommended to Anglo-Saxon readers. Subjects the discussion of which in a scientific treatise is here forbidden by law, are commonly treated as matters of entertainment by the very latest school of young Parisian novelists. It would be narrow-minded to attribute this to inherent viciousness, but it certainly points to a danger in that furious hatred of 'the obvious' which is the central cult of the school. . . . . .

"The French are often charged with being impervious to exotic influences, but, I believe, very unjustly. A large section in Paris, as indeed in London, thinks nothing good that is not home-made. But Turgeneff and Tolstoy were known in France long before they were heard of in England, and so, in later times, were D'Annunzio and Sienkiewicz. To-day English readers are totally unacquainted with the extraordinary Swedish novelist, dramatist, alchemist, and atheist, August Strindberg, yet in France not only has he a large following, but he exercises a positive influence. As Strindberg, if not read in Swedish, must be read in French, I mention here that two new books of his have been published in Paris this winter, 'Axel Borg' (*Mercure de France*), a novel, and 'Inferno' (*Mercure de France*), a study in autobiography. It is useless to deny to Strindberg something like genius; he is amazingly vivid, agitating, and personal. But his mind works in tortuous and bestial paths; he is a sort of intellectual Ishmaelite, a skeptical egotist whose hand is against every institution. His trade, apart from authorship, appears to be that of a mathematician and a chemist; his foible is loathing and contempt for woman, in whom, like a medieval monk, he sees the devil incarnate. 'Axel Borg' is a striking story of an inspector of fisheries, the wisest and most disagreeable of men, who goes out to a dreary island in the Baltic and falls in love with a girl, but will not marry her because she can not be induced to confess that Woman is at all points inferior to Man. At the close of the book he goes mad. There is insanity in all Strindberg's books. 'Inferno' is simply a journal of part of the author's life, and shows him a sufferer from megalomania, and from the mania of persecution, and from the belief that people are trying to destroy him by electricity. It is a record of wretchedness and superstition and squalor told by a maniac who is a positive Lucifer of the intellect. Yet parts of this shocking book are interesting; the author retains, even in the ruin of his brain, a marvelous grip on the attention, and the close of the narrative is almost admirable. As I write these lines another fragment of Strindberg's autobiography appears in Stockholm, 'To Damascus,' in which he seems, like Huysmans and so many others, to be finding his way through the horrors and agitations of an outcast life to the haven of Rome. Strindberg is certainly the most remarkable creative talent started by the philosophy of Nietszche, and this may account for his influence over a certain class of minds in France."

The historian of the future, says Mr. Gosse, will see in the extraordinary condition of imaginative literature in France at the close of this century the influence of the Goncourts. It is they who have destroyed the authority of criticism, and have reduced the younger writers to make a blind appeal to sensation rather than to judgment. The literary catchwords of the day—*non-imitation, la personnalité stricte, l'égeoïsme artistique*—are the legacy of Edmond de Goncourt.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" as a Defense of Slavery.—When Mrs. Stowe's work appeared nearly fifty years ago, the Southern press received it with rage and scorn. It might be expected that the Southern writers would now view the novel with toleration, but they go further than that. "L. L. V.," a writer in *The Sunny South* (Atlanta), makes the assertion that in one hundred years from now "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will actually be considered a defense of slaveholding as it existed in our Southern States. Here is the argument:

"We are of the opinion that one of our Southern writers is not wrong when he expresses the persuasion that to discriminating readers of the next century 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' will appear as a defense rather than an attack upon slavery as it existed here in the South. It describes in truth a state of society in which there prevailed as large a share of happiness as existed in any other part of the world. It portrayed a relation between the employers and employed which begot more confidence and mutual good will than has ever existed between these classes elsewhere. It describes the masters not as generally harsh, unmerciful tyrants, but as cultivating a tender care for those whom Providence had made their dependents. Mr. Shelby, Tom's first master, was a noble Christian gentleman, such as might have been found anywhere in our Southland. St. Clare, while not so noble a type of manhood, was not a tyrant. These were white men who had been brought up to the characteristics which slavery engendered in the master class. They are brought in striking contrast with Legree, a native of Vermont, who, when he became a slaveholder, valued his negroes simply for the money they could make, and cared nought for their comfort or for their morals. While presenting Uncle Tom as a man of honesty and firm in his maintenance of his principles, she is not guilty of any violation of truth. Slaves on many of our plantations could have sat for the picture. Instead of showing, as was no doubt the purpose of the authoress, that slavery degraded its subjects, the presentation of such specimens as Tom, George Harris, and Eliza most signally proves that it had the contrary effect. Every person in the whole story who wins largely upon the affections of the reader was brought up amid the environments of slavery, while those from the region where hostility to this institution prevailed have something about them repellent. It is not a little strange that this authoress, gifted as she unquestionably was, should have presented a picture of a state of things from which future ages will draw an inference so different from that which she designed. It may be, however, that she wrote under the influence of an inspiration that forced her to tell the truth, and that truth was that African slavery as it existed here in the South was the most satisfactory adjustment of the opposing claims of capital and labor that ever has been known."

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SOME PICTORIAL DOCUMENTS OF ANCIENT MEXICO.

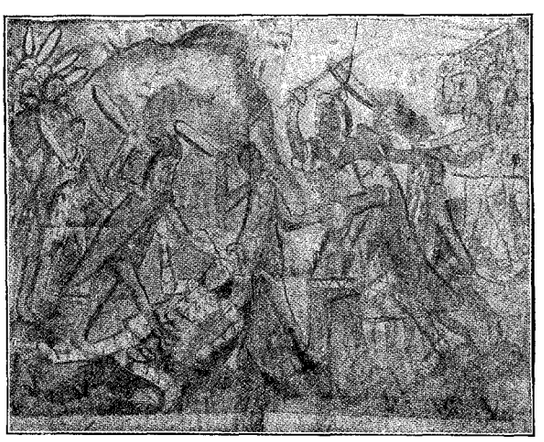
A REMARKABLE pictorial record of the history of the Cuauhtlantzinco Indians of Mexico during the time of the Spanish conquest has been made public by Prof. Frederick Starr, in a bulletin recently issued by the department of anthropology of the University of Chicago. There are forty-four pictures in

COMMENDING HIS POSTERITY TO THE CARE OF CORTEZ.

the complete series, as preserved in the old Aztec village near Cholula, each picture about 12 by 16 inches in dimensions. They are the work of native artists of the sixteenth century, and are accompanied with explanations in the Aztec language. In one of the series, "How the Inhabitants of Mexico Were Converted to Christianity by Prince Sarmiento," we might almost suspect the primitive historian of possessing a grimly satirical turn of mind. From an article about these pictures in *The Open Court* (December) we quote as follows:

"The custom of pictorially recording great events of their history was a habit practised by many Mexican tribes, as may be learned from similar productions, some of which have been published by Alfred Chavero in natural colors and in full size in his *Antiguedades Mexicanas*, under the name of *Lienzo de Tlaxcala*. This practise is referred to by Bernal Diaz, who says that the ablest painters of Mexico were sent to draw representations from life of the countenance of Cortez, his captains and soldiers, the greyhounds, guns, and other equipment of the Spanish army.

"The pictures of the Cuauhtlantzinco Indians were made at the command of their chief, Prince Sarmiento, and are the offi-



HOW THE INHABITANTS OF MEXICO WERE CONVERTED TO CHRISTIANITY BY PRINCE SARMIENTO.

cial documents or the little state at the time of the conquest of Mexico by Cortez. The Prince met the Spaniards, and at once embraced Christianity; he became a confederate of the Spaniards, to whose cause he always remained faithful."

The picture which represents the chief Tepostecatzin placing his infant child in the arms of Cortez for protection portrays at the same time an act of symbolism by which the native confederates appeal to the Spanish to respect the rights of later generations.

ANDREW LANG'S ESSAY ON DICKENS.

THE genius of Dickens, Mr. Lang points out, is to all appearance without lineal antecedents. Neither to "submerged intellect" in the mother, nor to hysteria, lunacy, or apoplexy on either side of the house, have the disciples of Lombroso been able to trace it. His parents were "very normal representatives of the middle classes." His early environment made Dickens, from the first, "a voice in the great murmur of modern discontent, an impulse in the movement which makes toward an end undiscerned." Of the untiring energy of the man, and of his earliest literary stimuli, Mr. Lang writes (*The Fortnightly Review*, December):

"His native bent was as much toward the stage as to fiction, and he wore himself out untimely in working the theatrical side of his nature, in his Readings. The desire to be conspicuously before the world which idolized him may have been as potent as the need of money in spurring the energy of Dickens to its fatal goal.

"It is to these circumstances, extraordinary energy, craving for employment, a half-suppressed genius for the stage, need of money, and need of publicity, that we trace these defects of Dickens's work which are due to surplusage. He did too much, with the inevitable consequences. He read too little. His nature was all for literary action; not for study, criticism, and reflection. The results were these blemishes with which he is reproached in that age of reaction which ever succeeds to a career of vast popular success. Criticism, indeed, was not lacking, even when he was best accepted. . . . . .

"The education of Dickens, as he has described it himself, was only a trifle better than that which the wisdom of the elder Mr. Weller devised for his son. From a very early age Dickens's knowledge of shabby London was, indeed, extensive and peculiar. After acquiring the elementary arts of reading and writing, he was fortunate enough to fall in with a little neglected collection of the great novelists of the last century—Fielding, Smollett, Sterne, Defoe—some volumes of travel, and the 'Arabian Nights.' On these he made himself; and probably the popular tales with which his nurse, Mercy, used to frighten him, nourished the more romantic part of his mind, which dwelt lovingly on things uncanny."

Altho his instinctive keenness of observation was phenomenal, Dickens saw things not without an element of distortion:

"We look at life each through our personal prism. But the prism of Dickens, if the phrase is permissible, was peculiarly prismatic. It lent eccentricity of color and of form to the object observed. It settled on a feature, and exaggerated that. Now, to look at things thus is the essence of the art of the caricaturist. A very good example may be found in the amusing *charges* of Mr. Max Beerbohm. He shuns or omits everything but that which he considers essential for his purpose of diverting, and he insists upon that. It has been denied that Dickens's work is caricature, and to say that it is *always* caricature would be vastly unjust. Nevertheless, the insistence on Carker's teeth, Pancks's snort, Skimpole's manner, Jarndyce's east wind, and Rigaud's mustache, to take only a few cases, is exactly what we mean by caricature; and it is caricature in the manner of Mr. Carlyle. The historian, like the novelist, was wont to fix on a single trait or two—in Robespierre, St. Just, or whoever it might be—and to hammer insistently upon that. It was a ready, if inexpensive, method of securing a distinct impression. Both Dickens and Carlyle overworked this method. . . . . .

"Connected with the vividness of Dickens's observation (which becomes, in effect, a recreation of the object) is what one may call his *animism*, in Mr. Herbert Spencer's sense of that ambiguous word. In the opinion of many philosophers, early man and simple natural men, and children, regard all nature as animated. Whether they attain this idea by virtue of a process of peopling nature with 'spirits,' or whether without conscious theory, they mentally transfer to all things in the universe the vitality of which

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they are conscious themselves, or whether their mode of thought is merely playful, is not a question which we need discuss here. Whatever the origin of animism, thus understood, it is a mark of savage and popular invention, as displayed in myth and fairy tale. Now, the early form of human fancy, the form conspicuous among backward races, peasants, fishers, and children, is undeniably the source of all the civilized poetry and romance. The genius of Dickens was a relapse on the early human intellectual condition. He sees all things in that vivid animated way, and inanimate objects play living parts in his books more frequently than in any other modern works, except Hans Andersen's fairy tales. 'Hardly a form of matter without a living quality; no silent thing without its voice.' This manner was perfectly natural to Dickens, who, we may presume, had not reflected much on animism, or the survivals of the primitive in the civilized intelligence. . . . . .

"Dickens himself leaves it certain that his imagination, at times, went back to what is probably the primitive condition of actual hallucination. . . . He awoke once and saw his father sitting by his bed, when his father was at a distance. . . . Related to these primeval faculties was Dickens's intense power of imaginative vision and audition. He *saw* his characters, and heard them speak. . . . . .

"It is probably the case that all writers of genius have thought in this, which seems to be the earlier human way, now much effaced by various causes. Certainly this was the way of Dickens. His fancy acted with the freshness of the morning of the world, tho the materials on which it played were those of the slum, the law-court, the prison, the alehouse, or whatever is most remote from the visionary golden age. 'Our Parish' is not in Utopia.

"Such, roughly speaking, was the genius of Dickens, in itself, in the true sense, 'given,' underived, and akin to all true creative temperaments. Sympathy, insight, vision, observation, peculiarity of mental angle or point of view, were all combined with humor, and, in youth, with high spirits so vehement as to constitute a kind of genius of themselves. To all this circumstances added, what might otherwise have been absent, the knowledge of a vast field of life almost unexplored by any other great English writer, except Fielding and Crabbe. . . . . .

"By the time he was twenty-three, Dickens had learned the world which he was to illustrate, and was, in potentiality, all that he ever became, except the unrivaled humorist. Humor, I must confess, is much less apparent to me in his early 'Sketches' than observation, sympathy, knowledge, and that peculiar vein of benevolent bitterness which usually marks his social satire. Already he was, as he remained, a reformer, a moralist, a writer with a purpose. One does not find in him at this period the splendid spirits, the inexhaustible gaiety, which dawned on the world in 'Pickwick.' In the 'Sketches' he is still under the depression of struggle, poverty, neglect, and, possibly, of disappointed love; for his early love affair, with its Dora, later Flora, was passionate and real, if far from chivalrous in the long run. . . . . .

"In 'Oliver Twist' and in 'Nicholas Nickleby' occur the earliest examples of Dickens's pathos. Now pathos is not very easy to define, tho we know what we mean by it, and what Mr. Stevenson meant when he spoke of 'wallowing naked in the pathetic.' The pathos of Dickens is chiefly displayed in scenes where some very young and weak person is overwhelmed by misfortune, hunger, and ill-treatment, or succumbs to death. If a beast, say Dora's dog, is the victim, then, especially when poor silly little Dora is a sufferer at the same time, we have very deep pathos. It seems to appeal to our pity for helpless things hopelessly overborne by sorrows and sufferings, and, so far, varies from the tragic. . . . . .

"My own taste—not, I hope, from hardness of heart—is averse to much in Smike, Little Nell, Little Dombey, Dora, and other small sufferers exposed to the crushing weight of destiny in various forms. Apparently the taste of the greatest writers has been in agreement with this, for they do not use the pathetic nearly so much, or so often, or so resolutely as Dickens. That he overdoes it is plain from the contrast between the restraint he shows in describing, for example, the death of Mrs. Dombey, and the elaborate effusion on the death of her son. But whether this view is right or wrong—whether his passages of pathos are too frequent, and too strenuously tearful, or not—certainly they pleased the public, and were a great element in his popularity. He was naturally 'strong upon the *weaker* side'; his own emotions were powerfully stirred, and he always knew his public fairly well, and endeavored to satisfy its demands. But a later public is not precisely of the same taste, and discerns something theatrical in several of Dickens's pathetic passages."

Of Dickens the man, Mr. Lang writes:

"We see him brave, kind, generous, vivacious, capable of a passion which death and time warred against in vain. We see his hatred of cruelty, oppression, and indifference; we see that knowledge and deep thought, political or literary, were not his strong points. He was 'the pleasantest of companions,' with whom men 'forgot that he had ever written anything.' To myself, I own, his letters, and what is told of his social qualities, attest rather hilarity and buoyancy than that soft, all-embracing humor which plays round the letters of Lamb, of Scott, and of Thackeray. Mr. Dickens took himself and his works with a consuming seriousness and earnestness not to be remarked in these other authors. Mr. Forster speaks of 'the intensity and tenacity with which he recognized, realized, contemplated, cultivated, and thoroughly enjoyed his own individuality.' That is very evident, and I confess that to be thus self-centered and self-absorbed seems to me to have prevented Dickens from being, as a man, such a humorist as he is with pen and ink before him. His humor is rather a kind of wit (often, at least), based on enjoyment of observation of incongruities, than that quality of love, of melancholy, of contemplation, of detachment, of sense of our own littleness, which makes what one understands by 'humor.' Thus, in his high moods and hilarious hours, he seems not so much to have been humorous as joyous and convivial. Dickens was not self-detached, was not contemplative, had none of the sense of littleness which, in contrast with our infinite importance (to ourselves), and combined with the kindness of which he was full, make the humorist in essence. I do not mean, any more than Mr. Forster means, that Dickens was 'conceited.' Not that it would matter much if he was."

After an examination of the influences conducing to the qualities and the defects of Dickens's style, Mr. Lang concludes that the wise, who read for human pleasure, will be a little blind to the faults and concentrate their attention on the merits. The uninspired stretches that Dickens offers us at times are due to the fact that he was a novelist by profession, and perforce often worked *invita Minerva*, with the inevitable results. But it is neither by the stories he told nor the manner of his telling them, so much as by the wonderful world of characters which he created for us, that Dickens has laid us under lasting obligation. With these creations, as Mr. Lang says, "our hearts are simply peopled." And the crown of Dickens's praise is that no man of his generation diffused so much delight, gave so much sterling happiness to the whole of the English-speaking race. "How glorious is the record, how far beyond envy the achievement, how frivolous do our deductions and carpings appear, when set beside the undeniable fact."

NOTES.

MONEY has been contributed for a life-size statue of Thomas Hughes, the author of "Tom Brown's School Days," to be erected at Rugby.

THE French Society of Authors has commissioned M. Falquire to make a statue of Balzac, to take the place of the rejected model by Rodin. It is hoped that the statue will be ready for the one-hundredth anniversary of Balzac's birth, in May, 1899.

SARAH BERNHARDT, in order that the greater public of the middle classes might profit by her art, has leased from the Government the *Théâtre du Nations*, Paris, for at least a dozen years. The present low prices are to be maintained.

IT is reported that Emile Zola is soon to visit America. Perhaps it is not widely known that Zola's early manhood witnessed a bitter struggle against poverty and deprivations. Until twenty he was a spoiled child, but on his father's death he and his mother began the battle for life in Paris. Of his dark time Zola himself says: "Often I went hungry for so long that it seemed as if I must die. I scarcely tasted meat for one month's end to another, and for two days I lived on three apples. Fire, even on the coldest nights, was an undreamed, of luxury; and I was the happiest man in Paris when I could get a candle, by the light of which I might study at night."

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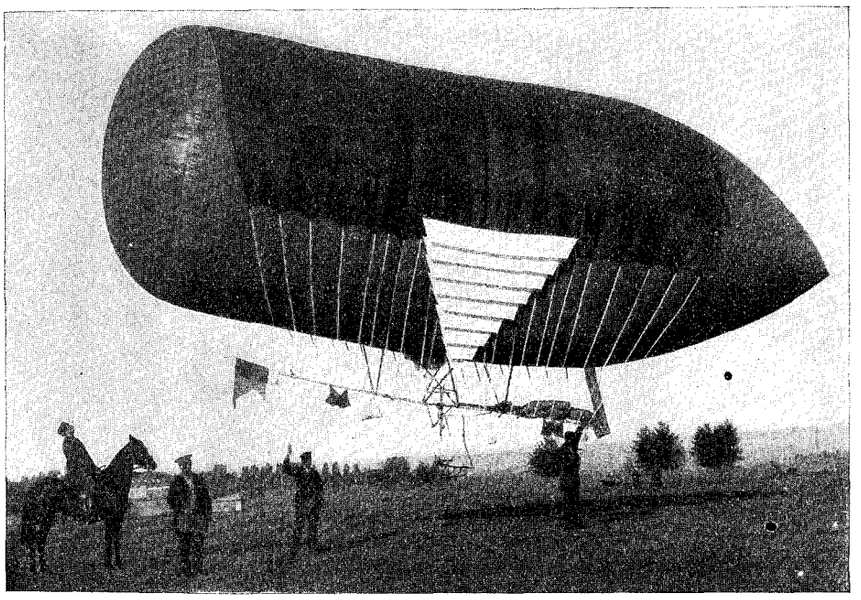
SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

ANOTHER FLYING-MACHINE.

IT used to be said of flying-machines that their only fault was that they would not fly. This reproach has certainly been removed of late. We have any number of flying-machines that will really fly; the trouble is now that they will fly to no purpose.



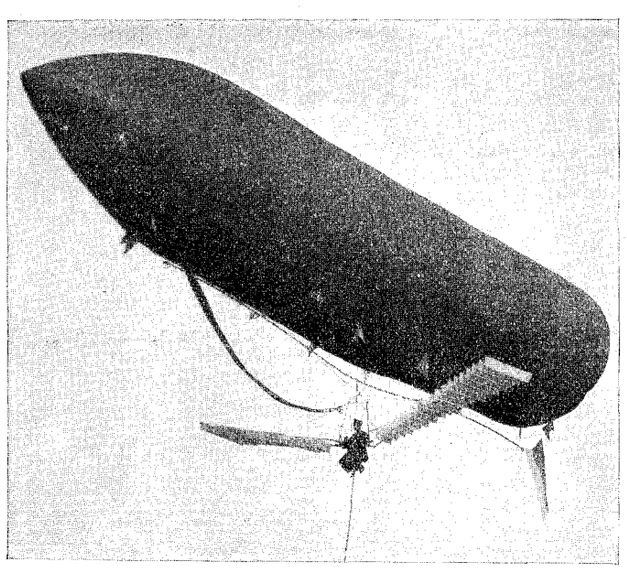
DANILEWSKY'S DIRIGIBLE FLYING-MACHINE, SHOWING WINGS.

Courtesy of *The Scientific American.*

Either they are only models, or they will carry only one man, or they will work only for limited distances or under special conditions. In fact, they are in the stage through which all great inventions have passed, and in which, it must be confessed, many inventions that were fondly hoped to become great have stuck. Whether the flying-machine will emerge from this stage or not, time alone can show. At any rate, a new device for navigating the air is always interesting. The following description of one devised by Dr. Danilewsky, of Charkov, Russia, is from notes of his experiments furnished by the author to *The Scientific American* (December 31). The photographs, also from the inventor, show that his clever combination of balloon and aeroplane has really worked. To quote the note referred to:

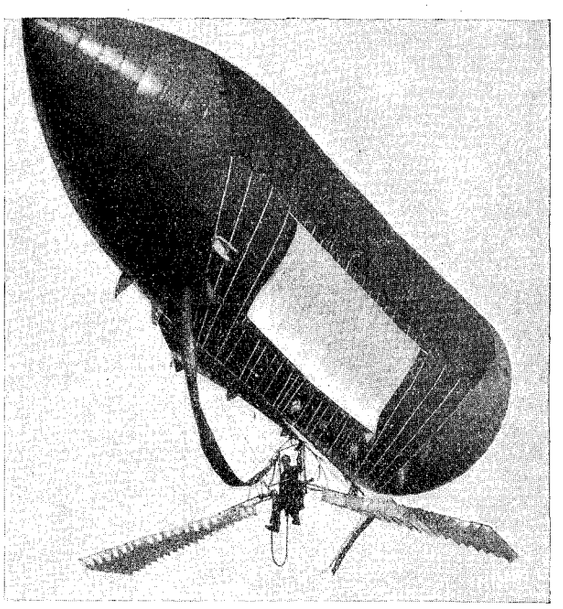
"This balloon flying-machine is based on the hypothesis that if a man's strength, in proportion to his weight, is not sufficient to raise him in the air, he can raise himself if part of his weight is subtracted. By the use of a balloon filled with hydrogen the weight of the man is eliminated from the problem, and he can use all his efforts to propel and steer the balloon which supports him. Our engravings, which are made from direct photographs of the balloon in mid-air, show the relative size and form of the great wings, which are 16 feet long. In order to utilize the whole power of the wings for progressive movement, it is necessary to rise high in the air, and then the wings can be placed at 90° without any risk of descending. In the latter case, to keep the machine from descending, it is better to open the parachute. On October 8, 1897, some twenty-five ascents were made in an hour and a half. Other ascents were made in the spring and summer of 1898 with good success, the balloon being turned round and round repeatedly. The size of the wings was decreased to 11⅔ feet and the working surface was increased. At a height of 280 feet the balloon was kept immovable and was turned around in the air several times. It was found that the balloon must be inflated with fresh hydrogen every seven or eight days.

"While such experiments do not solve the problem of a really practical flying-machine, which can go for miles without descending and can be managed at will, still they show that inventors are on the right track, and our Government has done wisely in appropriating $25,000 for experiments on the subject, under the direction of competent scientists who will guard against the wasting of money on the exploitation of freak devices."



THE WINGS RAISED IN MIDAIR.

Courtesy of *The Scientific American.*



WINGS DEPRESSED.

Courtesy of *The Scientific American.*

High and Low Explosives.—"It is well known," says Prof. Charles E. Munroe in *Cassier's Magazine*, December, "that

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if a pile of unconfined gunpowder of considerable size be ignited, it will flash off without doing any material damage to the support on which it rests, altho that support may be very frail; but if even a few ounces of guncotton, or nitroglycerin and the dynamite made from it, or mercuric fulminate be placed unconfined upon even a stout support, such as a rock or a piece of steel, and detonated, the rock will be shattered or the steel will be indented. This difference in effect is explained by the fact that as gunpowder is a mixture of bodies which react upon one another, the chemical change goes on with comparative slowness and the gases evolved are gradually dissipated, while as the other bodies enumerated are chemical compounds which contain all the elements necessary to combustion, the change is one of molecular disintegration, and it takes place so quickly that the resulting gaseous molecules impinge with an enormous velocity upon the supporting body before they escape into the atmosphere. Owing, then, to this difference in the speed of the chemical reaction taking place, the explosives of the gunpowder class are styled low explosives, while the others just enumerated are styled high explosives. The low explosives are used as propellants, and in blasting when it is desired to avoid shattering effects, while the high explosives are employed when a violent shattering of the object attacked is sought. Nevertheless, we can, by suitable treatment, so change the physical characteristics of guncotton and nitroglycerin that they may be used as propellants, and they thus become low explosives. The change consists in simply converting them by the aid of solvents and pressure into dense solids, like hard glue or ivory, and in this way are formed the modern smokeless powders. Thus the powder with which the United States navy is now experimenting is practically celluloid, which is made by heating pyroxylin with ether-alcohol until a plastic mass is formed, which is then squirted by powerful hydraulic presses into strips of different dimensions. These are dried to remove the solvent."

MAKING OVER THE "HUMAN FORM DIVINE."

THE recent achievements of plastic surgery in reshaping crooked noses, coaxing back refractory ears, and changing the general aspect of the features, have gone so far that, according to Benjamin Littlewood in *The Home Magazine* (January), it may be even possible to defeat the celebrated Bertillon system of identifying criminals by anthropometrical measurement:

"The criminal population of the United States is trying to solve an absorbing problem—how can the Bertillon system for measuring the human form be circumvented? The adoption of the system in New York and its prospective adoption in other American cities have caused a positive thrill of misgiving to run through criminal circles, because the infallibility of the method has been the special feature most prated about. Yet at least one physician in New York claims to be able to alter the human face and figure so as to make a radical difference in the measurements, and it is a fact that certain criminals are preparing to have themselves 'changed' in the event of being measured.

"'Making over' the human body has developed into a science. The days of 'cross eyes,' crooked noses, outstanding ears, etc., are past, and a man may so rearrange his outward appearance that his own mother would not recognize him. But the officials in charge of the Bertillon system say that this makes but little difference so far as their process is concerned. It is bones they measure; not tissue. It is not a man's outward appearance, but his anatomical or, to be more exact, his osseous characteristics of which they take account. The length of a person's head, the length of his middle fingers, the length of his foot,—these are said never to change after adult growth has been reached. On the other hand, out of one hundred thousand measurements taken in France no two were precisely alike. The measurements are reduced to the nicety of a fraction of a millimeter, and it is on this exactitude that the system depends for success. It is also on this point that the possibility of circumventing the system depends."

From an interview with the New York physician mentioned above, Mr. Littlewood quotes as follows:

"'Plastic surgery is by no means new. How many criminals may not already have taken advantage of it and so dropped out of sight, as it were. Very likely many of the mysterious disappearances of the last few years could be explained in this way.

"'The first measurement taken under the Bertillon system is

WOMAN WITH CROOKED NOSE.

the length of the head. In fact, there are three distinctive classes or groups into which the subjects are divided. These are big heads, medium heads, and small heads. The head measurement

SAME AFTER OPERATION.

is taken with a pair of graduated calipers. One point is inserted in the hollow at the upper end of the nose where it joins the forehead, the other point is made to touch the most prominent extremity at the rear of the skull. The calipers are pressed closely against the head, so that the exact distance within a fraction of a millimeter is recorded. The length obtained determines the first classification of the criminal. He is at once numbered among the big heads, medium heads, or small heads, as the case may be. In a cabinet containing sixty thousand measurements his class

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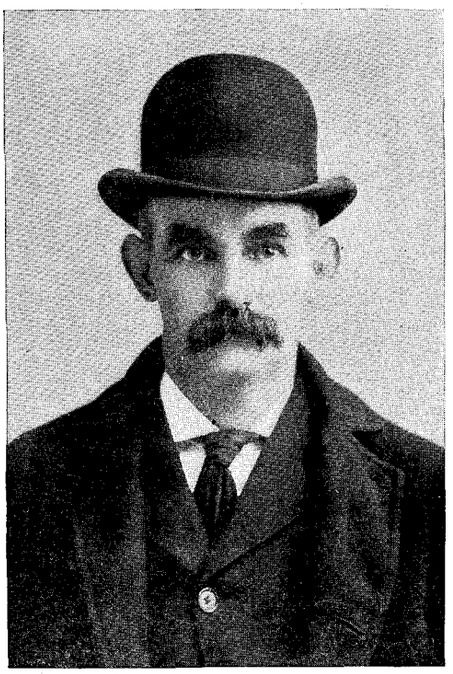
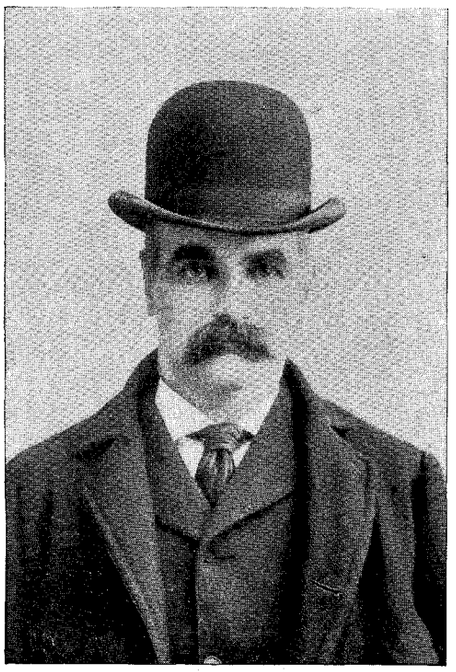
will number but ten thousand. Other classifications divide and subdivide this number until it becomes a matter of a few moments to search for any given measurement. Now, as the first classification is a question of millimeters almost, plastic surgery can be used to change the reading of the calipers. The hollow above the nose can be built up and filled up, thus making the measurement larger, or the hollow could be slightly deepened by laying the skin back and carefully cutting the thin bone with revolving burrs. If delicately performed, the back of the head could be



MAN WITH PROTRUDING EARS.

"burred over," making a slight but all-sufficient decrease in the general distance from front to rear. Thus a man could be made to change his class, and his measurement for the moment could



SAME AFTER OPERATION.

be shifted over to and perhaps lost in another class. Some men stand so nearly between classes that it is often a question as to where they properly belong. I believe the New York police intend measuring from cheek-bone to cheek-bone in addition to the ordinary side-head measurement. Now it is a well-known fact that any person's cheek-bones can be reduced perceptibly and no trace of the operation left visible. It has been done repeatedly in the various dermatological institutes to be found in large cities.

"'One of the important Bertillon measurements is the length of the left foot. The subject is made to stand on it so that his whole weight will, so to speak, stamp out all dissimulation. The length of a foot could be reduced by surgical means. The great toe also could be shortened perceptibly. The left middle finger and the left little finger could be treated similarly, altho the task would be much more difficult.'"

As for facial features, their complete change, we are told, presents no difficulties at all. Noses can be utterly altered, the shape and position of ears can be changed, thick lips can be made thin, or *vice versa*, while mouths, eyebrows, and foreheads can be lengthened, shortened, or widened almost at a moment's notice. Says the physician:

"Given one hour's time for the surgical operation and allowing one week for the completion of the healing process, any man may change every feature and the whole general aspect of his face. It may be accomplished without pain if cocain is used, and, if skilfully done, no trace of the operation will remain."

As a profile photograph forms a part of the Bertillon method of identification, the bearing of all this or a possible defeat of the system may be seen. Still further:

"It is one of the features of the Bertillon system that all moles, birthmarks, tattoo-marks, or other skin disfigurements be noted and measured with reference to their distance from two near-by points. . . . Inasmuch as it is a rare thing to find two marks alike, and as exact duplicates of several marks on three or four persons have never been found, they play a very important part in the general scheme of identification. I am of the opinion, however, that they are not to be depended upon entirely and that under the hands of the skilful surgeon they may often come to confuse the police. By skin-grafting they may be removed or transplanted, thus vastly complicating the double system of measurements. All birthmarks are not capable of being removed, neither are all tattoo-marks. Still it is really wonderful what may be accomplished by a skilful operator."

Mr. Littlewood comes to the conclusion that the human body is a very variable quantity. Whether M. Bertillon would acknowledge, however, that the plastic surgeons can beat him at his own game may fairly be doubted until we hear from him or his representatives on the subject.

RECENT EXPERIMENTS ON THE FOOD VALUE OF ALCOHOL.

THE following conclusions from some experiments by Rosemann are translated for *The International Medical Magazine* (January) from the *Zeitschrift für diätetische und physikalische Therapie*. It appears from them that the only food value of alcohol is to economize fat. After showing that the experiments prove the utter inability of alcohol to spare albuminous materials, the author goes on to say:

"If it is admitted, on the one hand, that alcohol does not increase oxygen consumption and carbonic-acid production, and, therefore, protects other substances in the body from decomposition, and if it is conceded, on the other hand, that the substance so spared is not albumin, there is but one conclusion possible, namely, that alcohol by its combustion prevents the decomposition of non-nitrogenous substances; it is an economizer of fat. This conclusion agrees very well with the results of practical experience. Theoretically, however, this behavior on the part of alcohol is rather difficult to explain. The most plausible theory is the one advanced by Miura, that alcohol is a feeble protoplasmic poison. It finds support in the experiments of Romeyn, who found that in starving individuals the ingestion of alcohol increased the decomposition of albumin. . . . The final decision of this question must await further investigations. It is quite easy

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to suppose that the toxic effect of alcohol on protoplasm is habitually minimized by a rich albuminous diet and by the potent factor of habit, especially if it is conceded that alcohol can not replace albumin.

"The practical significance of these results for the economic value of alcohol is considerable. Henceforth it will have to be viewed in the light of a luxury; for it is valuable only inasmuch as it stores up fat, a not altogether desirable property. But the greatest significance of this inability of alcohol to replace albumin is in connection with dietetic treatment of disease, and I can not subscribe to Miura's opinion that 'the therapeutic value of alcohol is not affected by these experiments' in so far as it refers to the use of alcohol in general in disease. Its stimulant and antipyretic properties are of course unaffected by the results of the experiments, but not so its value as a foodstuff, since our principal object in giving it for that purpose is to check the consumption of albumin in the body. It would, indeed, be a bold thing to assert that alcohol, which admittedly does not possess the power of replacing albumin in health, develops that power when the organism is weakened by fever and disease. It is much more likely that alcohol under such circumstances has the opposite effect and rather increases the destruction of albumin, as the very conditions which favor its toxic action on protoplasm, impaired nutrition and inanition, are present in disease.

"These questions can only be decided by further experiments on diseased individuals. For the present it is certain that we must abandon the hope of utilizing the calories of alcohol to economize the supply of albumin in the cells of the body in disease."

A Curiously Designed Propeller.—"While it has happened several times in years gone by," says *Cassier's Magazine*, "that, through accident in design, vessels were built with more beam on one side of the center line of keel than on the other, making them lop-sided, it remained for a board of United States naval constructors, away back in the forties, intentionally to locate the propeller shaft of one of the United States vessels off to one side of the keel, and that by as much as twenty inches. Passed Assistant Engineer F. M. Bennett, United States navy, writing of this vessel—the cruiser *San Jacinto*, by the way—in his interesting book on 'The Steam Navy of the United States,' says that three of the members of the board that settled upon the plans, while eminent in the business of ship-designing and building, were new in experience with screw-propelled ships, and they could not bring themselves to agree to any application of steam power that involved cutting a big hole for a shaft through the stern-post. Nothing apparently would do but locate the propeller shaft in the specified odd position, and this entailed its projection far enough beyond the stern to allow the screw to work abaft the rudder. The screw itself, as designed, was a ponderous six-bladed affair, weighing about seven tons, and this weight, overhanging the stern five feet at least, was manifestly a menace to the safety of the ship. The whole arrangement was very properly condemned by a board of engineer officers appointed to examine the *San Jacinto* and her machinery, and rational changes were recommended. The propeller was altered accordingly, but the shaft passage through the stern having been cut, the recommendation of the board regarding its modifications was not carried out."

The Uses of Big Things.—Americans are charged with ridiculous pride in "big things" simply because they are big. This charge is resented by *The Scientific American*, which asserts that there is always a good reason for our construction of the "biggest in the world" of whatever the thing may be. The immediate cause of this was an article in *The Engineer*, London, lecturing us for building the biggest locomotive in the world (115 tons) which has just been turned out for the Carnegie Steel Company. Says *The Scientific American:* "We are noted for big things in America, and it is probable that there are in this country more structures, both in civil and mechanical engineering, that can claim the distinction of being 'the biggest in the world' than in all the rest of the world put together. And yet we very much doubt whether in any single case it can be said that the mere element of bigness, as such, has been a controlling factor. The tendency toward concentration is based upon sound economic principles, and if our buildings are taller, our power-stations and transportation systems on a vaster scale, our locomotives and cars far heavier than those found elsewhere in the world, it is because, in our industrial pursuits, we have been working along certain predetermined lines which have led to operations and constructions of a vast and unprecedented scale. . . . Huge machines like the Pittsburg locomotive are big because we have found that it pays to make them big. The Pittsburg Consolidation weighs nine tons more than the Great Northern mountain locomotive, not because the Carnegie Steel Company wished to 'beat the record' by possessing the biggest freight engine in the world, but for the very practical reasons that the company wished to haul their freight at the least possible cost per ton, and the clearances of the road on which it was to run and the strength of the bridges it would have to cross allowed a locomotive of this size and weight to be used."

Newly Discovered Property of Aluminum.—"While carrying on a series of researches on the properties of aluminum," says *La Nature* (Paris, October 29), "Messrs. Hans Goldschmidt and Leon Franck have discovered a curious phenomenon whose applications may be largely developed when it has been studied a little more. If a mixture of metallic aluminum and the oxid of another metal be raised to a sufficiently high temperature, the oxygen abandons the other metal to unite with the aluminum; this change develops heat and causes a high temperature that continues the action till all the metal is reduced, without forming an alloy with the aluminum. The sulfids give analogous results, but the quantity of heat and the temperature are lower than with the oxids. The phenomenon can be utilized in the production of the high temperatures necessary to the fabrication of alloys, for soldering, for the perforation of iron plates, and especially for the reduction of metallic oxids. By this process have been obtained chromium, manganese, iron, titanium, barium, wolfram, molybdenum, nickel, cobalt, and vanadium; and it is well known how difficult is the reduction of most of these metals. Among other alloys have been made ferro-titanium, an alloy of barium and lead, one of barium and iron, etc. No doubt metallurgy will make haste to profit by this interesting phenomenon, which places aluminum in the first rank among reducers at high temperature."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"ONE of the best evidences of the value of lightning-rods up to date," says *The Scientific American Supplement*, "has been afforded by the Washington Monument. It is capped by a small four-sided pyramid of aluminum, which metal, so cheap to-day, was very costly at the time of the building of the greatest obelisk that the world has ever known. This aluminum tip is connected with the ground by four copper rods which go down deep into the earth. On April 5, 1885, the monument was struck fiercely five times, but it suffered no damage whatever. On June 15 of the same year a more tremendous assault was made upon the monument from the heavens and the result was a fracture of one of the topmost stones. The crack still remains to show what nature can do in the way of an electrical shock, but the slightness of the damage is evidence of man's power to protect himself from such attacks. The obelisk is ideally located for attracting electrical assaults from the skies, and yet, while many times hit, it has suffered only once, and that time to a trifling extent. The Statue of Liberty, New York harbor, is protected by copper rods united to the figure and extending through the pedestal to copper plates buried in wet ground beneath the foundation. Lightning has never injured the statue in the least."

A NEW ALUMINUM BOAT.—"The *Doctor Carl Peters*, says *The Engineering and Mining Journal*, translating from *L'Electrochemie*, "the boat which carries the name of the German explorer, and which is destined for Lake Victoria Nyanza, in Africa, has made a tour of the Lake of Zurich with the engineers of the makers, Escher Wyss & Co., and invited guests on board. This boat, which had its trial trip on July 20, in presence of German commissioners delegated by the minister of the navy, is of aluminum. The conditions of the contract prescribed that no single part of the boat should weigh over 160 kilograms [352 pounds], and this condition could not be fulfilled with any other metal. The boat is 13 meters [43 feet] long, 2.7 meters [9 feet] wide, and 1.45 meters [5 feet] deep. It may be detached into nine separate sections. The two boilers are independent of each other, and are for burning only wood. The boat can carry 50 persons. In a short time it is to be taken apart, packed into cases, and sent to the East coast of Africa. There they will be received by a caravan of negroes, escorted by troops of the protectorate, and transported into the interior. It is estimated that this transport column will take four months to reach Victoria Nyanza. The *Doctor Carl Peters* makes about 16 kilometers [10 miles] an hour, and the engine runs at the high speed of 850 revolutions per minute. The cost of the boat is, in round figures, $10,000.

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

ORGANIZED CHRISTIANITY UNDER FIRE.

"DEEP moral earnestness for the welfare of mankind, combined with bitter enmity to 'organized Christianity' is a startling phase of modern literary activity," writes Rev. David Beaton. He refers to the fact frequently noted of late that in recent meetings of laboring men the name of Jesus is often applauded and the name of the church as often hissed, occurrences which give voice to the indictment that the church of to-day is hostile to the objects for which Jesus lived. This same accusation, either implied or expressed, Mr. Beaton discerns in a large portion of our recent leading fiction. He says:

"The object of the Baroness von Suttner's 'Ground Arms,' one of the most powerful and pathetic human documents ever written in the blood and tears of a woman's heart, is to show the hellish nature of war, and especially to show the awful desolation which the late wars wrought in the Christian homes of Austria, Prussia, and France. It is an appeal to those nations to 'ground arms,' and so practise the teachings of the Prince of Peace, whose church they have each established with untold wealth and stately ceremonials, but whose spirit they continue to stab in the very eye. This is a Christian purpose, if there is one in the whole range of social effort. . . . Naturally she expects the church to speak with no uncertain voice against this crime of crimes, and to make no compromise with its perpetrators for wealth or worldly power. Instead of this she finds the warmest supporters of her peace principles in Renan, De Maupassant, and Dr. Bresser, avowed opponents of the church and even of the faith; and the advocates of war in the Christian minister whose official position in the church renders him utterly blind to the moral inconsistencies of his arguments for war. . . . In a word, the author goes to the skeptical *littérateurs*, scientists, and philanthropists for support and inspiration, and pours her bitter contempt on the representatives of official Christianity, from the Pope down, as leagued with the powers of the world against the very principles for which Jesus lived and died."

Of a more recent and much discussed book, Mr. Beaton writes:

"In Hall Caine's 'The Christian,' we have a criticism of the Anglican Establishment, depicted as the creature of political party rivalries and mean ecclesiastical ambitions; but powerless in the face of the deepening gulf of poverty and social crime. The book is weak and vicious as a literary production, full of the most glaring absurdities, both as to the actual conditions of Christian work in London, and the real power of this particular church toward the social condition of the people. But it can not be denied that Mr. Caine is one of our greatest writers, and a man of sincere Christian character and noble purpose. . . . . .

"Stripped of all verbiage, he makes this charge against the church: That when a man with the spirit and character and aims of Jesus Christ appeared in the church of His birth to do the work that Jesus did and commanded His followers to do, the fate he met was the same as his Master's—death; and this at the hands of the church and the people whom this church had been teaching for a thousand years."

The writer then takes up Mrs. Ward's "Marcella," of which he says:

"The characters are natural as well as the vehicles of the new ideas; they live and throb with human passion, and are racy of the soil, and products of a proud line of rulers. One can see back of them centuries of lordship and serfdom, of hoary customs and inherited prejudices; the fair fruitful English fields, the proud castle of the lord of the manor, and the cosy farm of the yeoman, the cathedral, the college, and the mighty possessions of wealth, learning, and dignified religious ceremonial that have made the church a political and social power in the land. Yet, side by side, one can see the boorish ignorance of the peasant, his squalid fever-stricken hut, his grinding toil, and his hopeless horror of ending all in the almshouse. There, too, is the lurid light of crimes created by class laws, and the awakening agony of both landowner and peasant to the conviction that this hopeless toil and destruction of manhood can no longer be endured. The author makes no crude, passionate charge against the church for this state of affairs; she simply ignores it as a factor in the solution of the very problems which, on its own showing, it was created to prevent or remedy. Now to those who know the true position of the English Church as one of the most powerful agents in the production of Britain's moral and material greatness, this is a significant attitude for a foremost moral reformer and thinker to assume."

Turning to France, to the writings of Zola, the same note is found, the same verdict of "failure" against organized Christianity:

"The moral, social, and civic problems of France, as seen under the searching eye of Emile Zola, and treated in that great trilogy of 'Lourdes,' 'Rome,' and 'Paris,' are made the touchstone to try the vitality and practical efficiency of the Church of Rome. The author's final attitude, as expressed in the opinions of the hero, the Abbé Froment, is that a modern Reformation is impossible, 'among a people that no longer believes, that has ceased to take all interest in the church and sets its hope elsewhere.'"

Among all these critics, however, Mr. Beaton notes that we are offered nothing at all adequate in place of that which they attack, "the only institution which exists avowedly for the purpose of carrying the divine life of Jesus into the hearts and social life of men." This much, nevertheless, he admits:

"The church may well pause at any great crisis like the present and ask herself, 'Am I to-day a better exponent of the spirit and work of my Master than those unofficial reformers who are claiming to obey more exactly His teachings and follow more closely His example?' And, perhaps, the attitude of 'organized Christianity' to war, slavery, pauperism, prostitution, intemperance, social and labor problems, and the new truths of science, all requiring considerable explanation and defense, will furnish ample reason for humility and new resolves to manifest more of the Christ-likeness to the world."

DOES THE DOCTRINE OF ETERNAL DAMNATION LEAD TO INSANITY?

PREACHING the doctrine of eternal damnation to children results, in many cases, in insanity. Such is, in substance, the declaration made by Dr. Seldon H. Talcott in his annual report of the Middletown (N. Y.) Insane Asylum. The shock of fear resulting from teaching sensitive children the horrors of future punishment often ends, we are told, in the arrest of mental development. The church is sometimes the vestibule of the insane asylum. Children should not be frightened into religion, nor should so-called religious education be driven into them. Worry and insomnia, arrest of mental development, and then imbecility are the results.

In concluding his report Dr. Talcott gives this advice: "Teach chiefly to children the inspiring consolation of religion for the future. Present religion to the young in the form of a new commandment, a glorious inspiration to do good and be good."

These statements by Dr. Talcott have, according to the New York *Herald*, raised a storm of protests among clergymen. A reporter was sent to interview a number of clergymen and physicians on the subject.

Father Deshon, of the Paulist church (Roman Catholic) was inclined to agree with Dr. Talcott. He is reported to have said:

"The most serious problem in life is man's future estate. When we consider with what profound thought the greatest men of all ages have entered upon a survey of the question in all its bearings, is it any wonder that a child having constantly repeated to him the doctrine of eternal punishment should become insane?

"It is quite natural and perfectly easy to understand that any one, young or old, of a serious turn of mind, of a thoughtful tem-

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perament, allowing his mind to concentrate upon the dread problem, occupying all his thoughts, should become unbalanced.

"It matters not who the man is, he can not escape anxiety regarding his future life.

"I have faith in the commandments of God, and know that while men do their duty and obey these commandments, calling upon God for His grace and mercy, they will find happiness.

"The church presents these commandments to God's children for them to follow and obey. I do not think that the young should be oppressed with gloomy teachings and plunged into despair by doubts and terrifying doctrines as to their future state."

Dr. Robert S. MacArthur, the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, said he did not feel competent to pronounce on the causes of insanity:

"It would require a wide and careful generalization of facts to enable one to pronounce authoritatively on such a subject. I greatly doubt if any teacher of theology or specialist in medicine has a sufficient number of facts on these matters to enable him to speak with accuracy.

"Doubtless instruction which inspires fear may have a powerful influence upon the minds of the young, but I feel quite assured that there is comparatively little teaching of future punishment in any of our churches which is likely to increase the sensibility of fear.

"It may be that in some churches where the people are ignorant and superstitious fear may be appealed to in a hurtful way. But from a pretty wide knowledge of the methods of instructing the young, especially in our Protestant churches, I feel well assured that there is no ground for alarm that insanity will result from the teaching of future punishment. This doctrine has been greatly modified in the last decade.

"It is not now taught, even in our most orthodox churches, as resulting from any arbitrary decree of God. It is taught simply as a consequence of the violation of moral law.

"It is made to appear as being the result of the operation of law, as truly as are the mental ignorance and physical ailments.

"Dr. Talcott need not be alarmed lest such teaching shall be responsible for the increase of insanity."

Dr. Benjamin F. De Costa, of the Church of St. John the Evangelist (Episcopalian), thought Dr. Talcott was right so far as his general statements were concerned, but as to the facts, that is another question. Of course there is a right and a wrong way of teaching religion; but as to religious instruction being the cause of insanity, he could not believe that. He thought it was due to eating too much meat. Disease always goes to the weakest part of the system, and too much animal food is undoubtedly the cause of disease. The mania an insane person may develop depends upon the bent of his mind. If interested in religion, it produces mania on that subject. If interested in politics, he wants to kill Presidents; and there you have it.

Dr. George F. Shrady, editor of *The Medical Record*, gave an interesting view of the subject from the standpoint of the physician. He said:

"All members of our profession are interested in this question. The old form of religious excitement in the progress of human development has been modified, consequently there is less insanity from such causes. The excitement is not so dominant as in former times, when worshipers were stricken down during protracted meetings.

"There is no denying that many inmates of asylums are the victims of religious excitement resulting in nervous exhaustion. In nearly all such cases the young patient inherited a weak mind. Emotional parents, in the habit of attending camp-meetings and becoming unnaturally excited, leave their children a legacy of nervousness and weak intellect, unfitting them to withstand the terrors of future punishment.

"The young and emotional should never be subjected to such tests. Young girls are more apt to be affected by the solemn features of religious exhortation than boys. They are more sensitive, intense, and easily impressed, having more delicate organizations and higher moral natures.

"There are two periods in life when this acute sensitiveness is most manifested—the two childhoods, youth and old age.

"The antiquated practise of preaching eternal damnation, as practised in the days of our forefathers, happily no longer prevails. This idea of scaring people into the church is wrong, and, I think, generally condemned by the profession.

"In many cases the standard of religion is placed so high and so surrounded by impossible and illogical doctrines that no young mind, however bright, can comprehend it. Hence the child worshiper anxious to be good, but seeing no way of reaching heaven through such a maze of contradictions with terrifying conditions, becomes despondent, then desperate, and finally the overtaxed brain gives way, physical strength breaks down, and, as a last resort, the victim is sent to the asylum that a shattered intellect and broken constitution may be restored.

"In the opinion of the profession there is no excuse for wrong methods in religious instruction. Only that which is beautiful, exalting, and inviting in religion should be presented, especially to the young and oversensitive child.

"True religion to a firm believer has never done any harm. It is only a perverted presentation of God's truth that works irreparable harm. It is folly to attempt frightening people into heaven.

"*The Herald's* recent editorial on this subject covers the whole matter. It is wise, judicious, and sensible from every standpoint of religion and medicine. The teacher who educates the young in conformity with the views therein expressed will be successful in enlightening the mind and elevating the soul. The great power of the world is in light and sunshine. So it is with religion: its strongest influence is in gentleness and sweetness. The still, small voice which illumines the teachings of Christ and the New Testament is a marvelous power. In spite of the terrors of persecution, and wholesale slaughter of humanity in days gone by, this sunshine of religion has made the world blossom with beauty and civilization.

"Why, then, should we seek to lead the young and gentle toward heaven by methods of terror calculated to destroy the mind? It is a great wrong.

"A feature of this subject is that religious insanity is more prevalent among negroes than the whites. There are forty per cent. of negroes to twenty-five per cent. of whites who become demented through religious excitement. Those who have witnessed the scenes at a colored camp-meeting will understand what I mean. Wild and unnatural features of so-called religious exhortation should be avoided by the churches.

"Another thing. These fine-spun, unnatural doctrinal points, on which no three theological experts agree, affect many like the mysteries of the calculus on an ignorant, undeveloped pupil, anxious but incapable of going to examination with the least knowledge of the subject. To expect a lovely young girl with a gentle nature and innocent, aspiring heart to comprehend the dogmas of the antiquated theology hurled at the congregation like thunderbolts from Sinai, is absurd.

"There should be moderation and sense in religion, as in all other lines of instruction and mental and spiritual development. The most powerful moral force to-day is the religion of the Golden Rule. It is the pivot around which civilization revolves. On this Golden Rule hang all the commandments.

"Religion should be made possible for humanity to understand and reach. It does not require a mathematical mind nor any exhausting flight of the child's imagination to comprehend the love of a mother. So in regard to the Divine nature. The blessedness of love and the glorious possibilities of the soul to rise toward things celestial are forces to move the world. True religion is healthful for mind and body. It can never do harm. Neither the weak nor the strong will be the worse for following its inviting commands. To use a homely expression, 'Don't put the hay too high for the little horses to reach.'"

Dr. Charles F. MacDonald, former president of the New York State Commission on Lunacy, and with an experience of nearly thirty years as an alienist, said he had found comparatively few cases of insanity with religious excitement as the primary cause:

"That cases of insanity do occasionally arise from excessive religious zeal and excitement I think there can be no question. These, however, are exceptional instances, and in nine out of ten of the many cases which I have personally investigated in which religious excitement was regarded as the causative factor I have found that the morbid mental symptoms which marked the

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onset of the disease—namely, religious excitement—had been mistakenly regarded as the cause.

"That errors of this kind respecting the causation of insanity are frequent is a matter of common knowledge to all experienced alienists. I quite agree with Dr. Talcott, whose large experience in the field of mental medicine entitles his opinions to great respect, that religion should never be presented in such a way as to shock young sensibilities or to instigate doubt, pain, and worriment in the hearts and minds of youth.

"I can understand how excessive religious devotion might act as an exciting cause of insanity in individuals who are predisposed thereto, whether through inheritance or otherwise.

"And this may be said of excessive indulgence of any kind. In my opinion, it is only this class of individuals who are likely to be unfavorably affected by excessive religious zeal or excitement.

"It should be borne in mind that the immediate and direct cause of all insanity is a condition of malnutrition of the brain and nervous system, no matter what the underlying conditions may be."

IS SOCIAL DEMOCRACY BECOMING MORE FRIENDLY TO CHRISTIANITY?

THE anti-Christian trend of Social Democracy has been quite generally accepted as a fact by outsiders, altho it was known that, officially, the promoters of the agitation disclaimed all connection with Christianity, and, after the program of Frederick the Great, were willing to "allow everybody to be saved after his own fashion." It is an interesting fact that, in a certain coterie of thinkers and writers on social subjects, especially in Germany, the view is finding favor that the Social Democrats have in recent years materially changed their attitude toward Christianity, and that possibly they may be even instrumental, in the course of time, in the arduous task of winning back, at least to the principles of Christ and of the primitive church, if not to the historic churches and theology of the present day, the masses who are now estranged and see in the Christian church support for the privileged classes. The matter in hand has come into the forefront of discussion by the recent publication, on an ambitious scale, of a history of German Social Democracy ("Geschichte der deutschen Sozialdemokratie") by the editor of the Berlin *Volkszeitung*, Franz Mehring, who devotes considerable attention to the attitude of the movement he represents toward the claims of Christianity and the church.

In his historic survey of this problem, it is especially instructive to note that the Social Democratic movement, far from being originally anti-Christian or anti-churchly in character, was, at least in Germany, the very opposite. The father of this agitation and the first real German Social Democrat was the tailor Weitling, who, altho an opponent of the "Pfaffen," *i.e.*, the official, or better officious, ecclesiastic, was yet a pronounced Protestant and a student of the Bible. In his work among the laboring men he declared it to be his object to revive the spirit of the first Christian congregations, which he regarded as fundamentally communistic organizations. Christ he portrayed as a communist, and, indeed, the first communist in the history of the world, who had really made it the first object of His mission and work to preach communism, but had been compelled, on account of the religious dispositions of the times common to the Oriental peoples, to clothe His communism in a religious garb. It was accordingly Weitling's ambition to remove this religious garb and restore the communistic teachings of Christ in their simplicity and purity. The manner in which he sought to do this is especially clear from his brochure, entitled "Evangelium eines armen Sünders" (Gospel of a poor sinner) of which a second edition was called for as late as 1896.

Weitling, however, did not succeed in impressing his religious views on the agitation in question. Marx and Engels soon became leading spirits in the Social Democratic ranks, and both of these were outspoken atheists and enemies, not only of Christianity, but also of all religion. Their philosophical ideas had been developed in the school of Hegel and in religious, or rather, irreligious, matters. They were the followers of Feuerbach, who declared all religious ideas to be merely mental fabrications, and God and faith merely a reflection of subjective feelings and ideas. In 1843 Engels defended this hypothesis against Carlyle. This pronounced anti-Christianity won wide favor in the ranks of the Social Democrats and is largely responsible for the current estimate of the movement on this subject.

A second tendency in this direction was developed by Lasalle, which began in the sixties, who, together with his followers, first declared for that principle which has since then been officially the teachings of Social Democrats on the subject of religion, namely, "Religion ist Privatsache" (Religion is the concern of the individual alone). This was formally adopted in 1875 as the expression of the views of these classes, and neutrality in matters of religion thus became their claim. Mehring's work shows, however, how little this program has been carried out, and that for a long time the leaders did not succeed in suppressing the anti-Christian sentiments of their followers, so that the common belief of others in this regard was not without good foundation.

In this connection, it is deeply interesting that Pastor Paul Göhre, easily the leading social writer among the German clergy, in an article in the Leipsic *Welt* (No. 46), in reviewing the history of Mehring, expresses the conviction that since the beginning of the present decade the Social Democrats actually have been able not only to carry out their non-partizan policy in reference to religion, but that a more friendly attitude toward Christianity actually had been developed in the ranks of Social Democrats that promises much good by regaining the non-Christian masses of Germany and of Europe for Christianity. This new era dates from the cessation of the special Social laws in 1890, since which time the agitation, once so widespread and popular—namely, of having all Social Democrats of Germany to a man sever their connection with the state churches (*Massenanstritt*)—has practically died out, and prominent anti-Christian agitators in their ranks, such as Dr. Rüdt and Dr. Wille, have been crowded out of the ranks of Social Democracy by the sentiment of the others. The Christian pastor, Th. Wächter, has been received as a member, and his attempts to spread Christian ideas among his new associates have even been received with favor, as is seen from the *Sonntagsblatt*, started by him in the interests of this program.

But Göhre declares that it is useless to expect the return of the masses to the Christianity as taught and practised by the churches of to-day. He states that Mehring's book certainly teaches this, that only the primitive Christianity of Christ, a religion stripped of its dogmatic garb, can successfully plead for the return of the estranged multitudes now found in the Socialistic camps; and that this Christianity must come not with words only but also with deeds that will do justice to the workingman and his cause. —*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

More in Defense of the Christian Scientists.—Mr. Carol Norton, member of the Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church of Christian Science in Boston, contributes to the Troy *Record* a long article called "Christian Science: A Critical Review." While this paper throws little new light on the subject, the following statements are of interest:

"The disappearance of Christian healing from the early church under the reign of the Emperor Constantine during the third century is an established fact of history. Its reappearance in Christendom through the discovery and founding of Christian Science is also an established fact. It was stated at the World's Parliament of Religions in 1893 that in the last decade over one million cases of hopeless disease have been cured by Christian Science. The system has over one million followers in Christendom to-day; between four and five hundred church congregations; some of these societies number less than a score of persons, and some exceed 2,500 worshipers at a single service. The mother church of the faith in Boston, Mass., has a local and general membership of over 12,000 persons, and has branches in the United States, Canada, England, Germany, France, and in other countries and in the isles of the seas. . . . . .

"Eighty per cent. of the members of the Christian Science churches represent cases that a few years ago were considered hopeless. Most of these cases represent restoration to health from advanced stages of organic disease; not, as is often averred, from insignificant ailments in no sense recognized as dangerous disorders. The average health of this great body of people ex-

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ceeds in a marked degree the general average of other religionists and citizens."

Mr. Norton quotes Prof. William James, M.D., of Harvard University, as saying of the Christian Scientists: "Their facts are patent and startling, and anything that interferes with the multiplication of such facts and with our freest opportunity of observing and studying them will, I believe, be a public calamity."

RUSSIA AS A MISSIONARY.

UNDER this caption, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps-Ward makes an impassioned appeal to the American nation for its cooperation in the Czar of Russia's proposed conference for disarmament. "All minor 'causes,'" she writes, "yield to-day to the great wail of humanity pleading for the annihilation of war." The deed of the age must be credited to him who offers the most powerful contribution to the preservation of peace between the nations. Is it from the Church of Christ, asks Mrs. Phelps-Ward, that this great impulse has come? The very question, she admits, would start a smile in the offices of the secular press, or of Wall Street. She continues (*The Independent*, December 8):

"The Christian Church, for reasons best understood by herself, and on which it is not the purpose of this paper to dwell, has not seen fit to enter the great arena of the day, wearing upon her fighting arm the silver-white crown—badge of the Prince of Peace—whose name she bears. . . . . .

"Where do we look for the plea for universal peace which has perplexed and shamed the powers of the earth? To the vast, unlimited monarchy of the Eastern Hemisphere; to the most powerful autocracy among civilized nations; to the greatest armed force in the world. Out of the very lion of despotism the honey of mercy comes.

"When the Czar of all the Russias, without herald of his intentions, quietly dropped upon an astounded world his peace manifesto—there needed a name for a new human emotion. Incredulity, sarcasm, bewilderment, insulting interpretation of motive struggled with respect, battled into confidence, wavered into admiration, and fell by the way into a feeling composed of any or all of these elements. The press of Great Britain, France, Germany, and America was torn with conflicting impulses. Reformers, poets, politicians, tried their pens and their lungs at the marvel. The people pondered the matter as the people will—slowly, with that apparent dulness which so often puts them in possession of the truth while their leaders are still fighting over it. What did, what could the wonder mean? *Russia!* If it had been England, or France, or Germany, or Austria—but Russia! If the manifesto had come officially from Victoria—why, the Queen is but a woman; it were a pretty sentiment! Diplomats and journalists would have complimented her womanliness—but what could she expect? If the German Emperor had issued such a proclamation it would have passed as a pose. The President of the French Republic, the Emperor of Austria, the Queen Regent of Spain, the President of the United States, each for reasons adapted to the instance, would have failed to command from the attention of the world that which has been commanded by the reigning Czar in the venture of his royal experiment. He is the only ruler, Russia is the only land, whence, in this year of our watching Lord 1898, such a plea for peace could have originated with a force which is all but irresistible, and a nobility which captures the imagination as much as it uplifts the soul.

"Nicholas II., 'humanly speaking,' is a young man of good character and of obvious aspirations. He is believed to be a devoted husband, a kind father, to favor a clean court, and to befriend in general the personal virtues; to be not without sympathy for the extremities of his people, and to be, besides, something of a student. Despotism touched with relenting moods forms his interesting heredity. His great-grandfather died directing the emancipation of the serfs. His grandfather, Alexander, freed the serfs, and was assassinated just as he was about to proclaim a constitutional and elective assembly. The father of the present Czar was a man of military instincts, a fortifier of armaments, a giant who could break a horseshoe with his hands, or a nation with his will. In Nicholas the gentler corpuscles of the blood stir into sight again, and predominate. In his being a significant war of natures has come to the truce. . . . . .

"Nicholas II. has offered what we may not hesitate to call the most important document of this and of any age since the time of Him whose last political direction was 'Put up thy sword.' Its results are impossible to forecast; they must depend upon the available humanity, nobility, and philosophy of the times; but its possibilities are so enormous that one can scarcely read the manifesto without tears, or think of it without prayers. So much of the future character and happiness of the race may hang upon the reception given by the world to that short, simple piece of writing, that we tremble between hope and terror for its fate.

"Whatever that may prove to be, let us believe in the believable, in the name of all that is decent and dignified in our natures.

"'It is the low man thinks the woman low.' It is the ignoble mind which calls the noble deed ignoble. It would be easy to put back the disarmament of Christian nations another generation or another century by unworthy skepticism or unchristian indifference to the royal deed of this young Emperor. I would rather be the author of that manifesto than of the 'Iliad' or 'Macbeth.' . .

"Altho the challenge of the young Czar has been received in certain directions with a timidity that is stupefying to witness, in others it has met with a response worthy of the subject. Already the deeps are stirring beneath the waves. Private impulses to reply to this high summons are shaming public caution. Some of these are taking forms so courageous and so ideal that, even if their methods are not practicable, their very existence is an inspiration. In Boston, for instance, a plan is already on foot to offer enormous prizes for the most valuable essay on the subject of Peace by Disarmament. . . . The conference of powers desired by Nicholas to discuss disarmament is to take place, it is now said, in Brussels, and in March. The time is short. The opportunity is one of a lifetime, one of an age, one of all ages. What will the Christian church do to meet this splendid demand upon its principles and its resources? What is the Christian press doing to acknowledge this great claim upon its conscience and its power? It ought to ring from sect to sect and thrill from column to column with the magnificent chance which fate has put into its hands.

"Shall brute slaughter be expelled by the law of love, and no thanks to the religious classes or the religious journals? Shall Russia be missionary to American citizens? . . . *Ours* is the blame, *we* are the pagans, if we allow this hour to pass us by unimproved. To demand from it peace upon earth is the first of our rights as citizens, and the first of our duties as believers in Jesus the Christ."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE problem of the evening service, says the New York *Observer*, is not confined to America. In Calcutta, for example, it is extremely difficult to interest the foreign population in a sermon at any time of the day. *The Koh-i-Nur* remarks on the curious spectacle of seeing sixty per cent. of the congregation at the Calcutta Cathedral at even-song march out just before the sermon.

IN an address delivered at a Christian Science meeting in Brooklyn recently, the statement was made that there are 7 Christian Scientist churches in Greater New York and 13 in the immediate vicinity, 38 churches and congregations in the State of New York, and about 30,000 adherents of the faith in the State. It was also claimed that there are 1,000,000 Christian Scientists in this country.

A SYSTEMATIC effort has been begun in the United Brethren church to prepare a larger book literature for the denomination, it being held that the doctrines and work of that church are as suitable for literary exposition as those of any other. Bishops Mills and Kephart have been already engaged for a year and a half in promoting the enterprise. The first volume will be on theology, by Bishop Weaver.

AN association formed a year ago by four men for prayer and conference for the closer union of the branches of the Christian church in Canada resulted in the organization at Toronto of the Canadian Society of Christian Unity, with the principal of Queen's University as chairman. At the opening meeting addresses were delivered by the chancellor of Victoria College, the provost of Trinity University, and the principal of Knox College.

THE last annual report of the Roman Catholic Society of Foreign Missions in Paris, as noted in *The Independent*, shows that the work of the Society extends over Eastern Asia and includes 28 dioceses, with 1,031 European and 569 native priests. The adult baptisms, without counting missions in Siam and Yunnan, were 46,326, an advance of nearly 8,000 on the preceding year, and the entire community reported in connection with the missions number 1,162,165.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

SPAIN AND THE CARLISTS.

"A GOOD many priests are found about the stock exchange, trying to sell their stock," says the Madrid *Economista*, and it adds: "Some people think this heralds a Carlist rising." The English have increased the garrison of Gibraltar, which is another sign of a coming storm. The Spanish Government is alive to the danger, but many European papers fear that the only effective means to prevent a rebellion—the immediate introduction of administrative reforms—is not taken by the authorities. Instead, the Government trusts to the police, and, at the last instance, to the army. But this does not seem to deter the Carlists from making preparations for a rising.

The *Tiempo*, Madrid, says:

"Altho the Government tries to minimize the importance of the Carlist movement, there is no doubt that it is spreading. Even in Madrid there are Carlist meetings. The army is not yet disloyal, but the Carlist agents are making headway. It is certain that the Carlists were hardly as bold when they could command thirty to forty thousand troops. Their officers have been appointed, and altho their attempts to raise funds by a loan in England have failed, they have obtained enough money to make the people think that they can defray the expenses of a campaign."

The *Epocha* says Carlists can now be seen, not only in Biscaya, where they are, of course, always strongest, but everywhere. The *Noticiero Bilbanio* thinks the movement is not as dangerous as it would have been a few years ago. The paper says:

"Quite a number of Carlists oppose a rising if the army can not be gained over. These are the wealthier adherents of the Pretender. But there are also a large number who would not hesitate a moment to take the field. These are the guerilleros, men who were made officers during the last Carlist war, and who would rather begin a civil war than work. The matter is certainly worth watching, yet we do not believe that serious troubles will ensue. The country has become wiser. The Pretender can not count upon as many influential people as formerly. If the Government is watchful, all danger may yet be avoided."

The *Heraldo*, Madrid, holds similar views. What is more, it says, the French are not as willing to assist the Carlists as in the days when MacMahon was President. A French nobleman of high rank, a Legitimist who formerly did much to further the cause of the Pretender, expressed himself to the following effect in an interview with a reporter of the *Heraldo*:

Carlism is to-day tainted with the same evils as the other parties in Spain, hence the masses have lost faith in it. Don Carlos knows this well enough, and so do his advisers. It is really doubtful that an army could be raised among the people. Hence the agents of Carlism no longer work among the mountaineers, but try to gain over the garrisons of large cities, among the very people who were formerly most opposed to the Pretender. Many doors are closed to him to-day, and he can do nothing unless he can get the army to support him. That is a very difficult task. He will hardly be able to raise more than 5,000 men, and with these nothing can be done against the regular army.

The Madrid correspondent of the Berlin *Post* points out that sectionalism is much more potent in Spain to-day than Carlism. He says:

"The Separatist movement in Biscaya and Catalonia is too strong to be ignored any longer. These rich provinces have been rendered desperate by the corrupt practises of the central Government, and it is time to begin with real reforms. Neither force nor intrigue will avail. The Carlists are making headway because they promise to further the interests of the Separatists. Could not a wise government take the wind out of their sails by following the same tactics? Could not nepotism and administrative immorality be abolished? The old political parties in Spain have lost all their prestige. The people, however, are not wanting in capability; what they need is a leader. It is the beautiful prerogative of the crown to find this leader."

Business men in Spain have no wish for a civil war. "Let us have some years of peace, at least in the interior," writes Atico in the *Union Ibero-Americana*; "what we want is time to work, time to develop our resources, time to heal the wounds inflicted upon the country."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE POLITICAL PORTENT OF CHINA.

MR. ARCHIBALD COLQUHOUN, who under the title of "China in Transformation," writes of the momentous problems which are in course of solution in the far East, and of the forces which are at work upon them, brings to the task he has performed so ably exceptional qualifications, derived from his training as explorer, engineer, commissioner, and administrator, in Burma and Siam, and in China, where he was special correspondent of the London *Times*, and more recently was engaged in important negotiations concerning projected railways. Nor has his experience been limited to Eastern Asia; he was the first administrator of Mashonaland, where he was concerned in the work of colony-making; and he was specially commissioned to investigate the canal scheme in Nicaragua. Mr. Colquhoun is a gold-medalist of the Royal Geographical Society, and has enjoyed the advantage of personal acquaintance with Yule, Alcock, and Parkes, Rawlinson and Baber. He may, therefore, be reasonably expected to represent with knowledge and sagacity the state of China as it now stands in its relation to the powers of the world.

He approaches the grand international problem presented by the affairs of China from the point of view of the English-speaking and Teutonic races, "because there is an obvious community of interests, as well as community of sentiment, among them, which may be expected, in the long run, to constitute a permanent factor in the world's affairs":

"One can scarcely avoid grouping the powers in combinations which will ultimately place the Teutonic peoples on the one side, and the Slav-Latin on the other. This would leave Japan as a mediating factor of great influence in the evolution of the Pacific states."

The general opinion prevalent in the West is that the exclusive and anti-foreign feeling now met with in China is a condition peculiar to the Chinese character, dating from remote antiquity. But, in truth, it was the conquering race, the Manchus, who conceived, and so long maintained, the policy of hermetically sealing the empire against the intrusion of "outside barbarians." The Manchus completed their conquest in 1644. But in the eighth century missionaries from the West were propagating the Christian religion in China, and in the thirteenth Marco Polo actually held office there, and there was a Christian archbishop in Peking. The explanation given by Huc, that it was the Manchu policy to preserve China for themselves, seems reasonable; and he shows that this very policy, which served to establish the Manchu power, would eventually lead to its destruction.

The Chinaman, inheriting Manchu ideas, has seen but little of the better side of the strangers from the West, whether hailing from Europe or from America. To him the foreigner has been always a man thinking of nothing but gain at any price—a man of gross material pleasures, coarse and of vicious temper, with no appreciation of Chinese philosophy or literature or history, and devoid of even the most elementary acquaintance with Chinese etiquette.

As for the Chinaman himself "he fulfils in the highest degree the ideal of an intelligent human machine." Bourne, in his "Report on the Trade of Central and Southern China," says: "The truth is, that a man of good physical and intellectual qualities,

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regarded merely as an economical factor, is turned out cheaper by the Chinese than by any other race." The Western world got many things from China, and many others were in use in the Chinese empire before they were known to us. The mariner's compass, gunpowder, the use of the umbrella, belong to the first category, and possibly some of the following also: Civil-service examinations, the early forms of the telegraph, theaters, bull-fights, novels, the census, the rotation of crops, printing, incubators, bank-notes, newspapers, and inoculation for smallpox.

Naturally, the Russian hankers for the Chinaman. The process of land-expansion by means of settlements—"stanitzas," the Russians call them—differs widely from the oversea colonial system of the Western maritime powers. The advantages possessed by Russia are apparent. Given ambitious rulers, great poverty of the mother country, an idea to follow, and, as an objective, the wealth of far Cathay, it is not surprising that Russian expansion should be restless, active, persistent. The party which despises the foreign nationalities has for the present the upper hand, and believes, as do the lower classes, that the Russians are the chosen people:

"Aspiring in Europe to the conquest of Constantinople, the Eastern Roman seat of empire, in Asia they regard themselves as the heirs and successors of the great world conquerors and rulers, Genghis Khan and Tamerlane. The resources of the whole empire are in the hands of one man, who follows a family policy, instituted by Peter the Great."

The three great enemies of the supreme Government in China have been famine, provincial autonomy, and rebellion; but the most formidable of these is famine. Locusts and rats may devour the growing crop of a whole province; deficient rainfall may prevent the crop from coming to maturity, or unseasonable snow in the highlands, or heavy and continuous rains, may breach the dikes and inundate the land. But while famine is wasting one province, there may be abundance in a neighboring district. Nevertheless, without communications, a failure of the local crop means starvation with all its horrors. It is mainly the difficulty encountered by the Government in transporting the food supply that leads to the appalling misery, when even the wolves attack the children in the village streets.

Two disintegrating processes have been at work: foreign nations have closed in upon China by sea and land, and internal communications have been falling more and more into neglect. The growing weakness of the Peking Government has become more and more apparent to the people. "Chinese" Gordon laid great stress on the importance of a central capital; the influence of the Peking Government is exhausted before it can reach the southern and western provinces; absence of communication means failure of control—and hence, rebellion:

"It has been evident to a few of the leading Chinese that the time was rapidly coming when foreigners would, and must, have extended freedom of intercourse with the interior, when, if the country were not opened up from within by the people themselves, the spirit of the age, which demands progress—or what we call progress—would be too much for her; when what was not conceded to reason would be wrung from her by the force of circumstances, culminating in the dismemberment of the empire. . . . And now that the powers are moving on China, with Russia, pressing forward with rapid strides, the decision of this and other questions no longer rests with the Chinese."

"Steam or anarchy," as Williamson said thirty years ago. The people are not only prepared for railways, but these would no more disorganize Chinese society than they disturbed the social order of the Western countries—for it is marvelous how quickly men become accustomed to changes which are for their benefit. In China the problem to be solved has been how to beat down the barriers of superstition and prejudice. But superstition and prejudice, sixty years ago, obstructed the introduction of the first railroad into England. And in India, where the mandarins and the *literati* were educated Englishmen, inevitable failure was foretold, and it remained for the locomotive to batter down the barriers of caste and white ants, floods and revolts. Within the first three years the passenger traffic largely exceeded the freight, and has continued to develop with wonderful results. The Chinese and Indo-Chinese are born travelers and traders:

"Last year [writes Colquhoun], immediately after its opening, I traveled several times over the Peking-Tientsin line, and found the new means of conveyance so much in favor that crowds were traveling to and fro for the mere novelty of the thing. I was forcibly reminded of Burma, where the people seem to look upon railway traveling as an added joy of life.'"

The earnings of Indian railways are 5.46 per cent., as compared with those of Great Britain, 3.60, and of the United States, 3 per cent. India has 20,000 miles of rail, and a man may travel 400 miles for 8*s*. 4*d*.

The imperial telegraphs are rapidly extending throughout the empire. There are lines between Peking and Tientsin, and connecting the capital with the principal places in Manchuria, as far as the Russian frontier. By an arrangement with the Russian telegraph authorities, the Chinese and Siberian lines in the Amur valley were joined in the latter part of 1892, and there is overland communication between Peking and Europe through Russian territory.

It is from Burma on the one hand, and from Shanghai and Hongkong on the other, says Mr. Colquhoun, that England must (by steam on land and water) effectively occupy the upper Yangtse region, the key to the British position in China. "China has ceased to be a buffer, and England must occupy the Yangtse region and southern China, if she means to hold her own."

In all matters of patience and "push," of taking trouble and contending with vexatious conditions, the Britisher, in China, compares unfavorably with the German. The "trivial" business, involving much detail, is not congenial to the English merchant; it is not "in his line." But somehow there always seems to be a German in whose line it is. The Russians, in like manner, are very enterprising and painstaking in business, not only in Mongolia, but also in the Western provinces. Every one who has seen anything of Western China is struck with the lack of British commercial enterprise there, as in other parts of the interior; but in the northwest the traders of Russian Central Asia are gradually pushing their way. The British trader settles at the treaty port, declines to learn the "beastly" language, and is content to entrust his goods to Chinese agents. Few British merchants have acquaintance among Chinese business men of good position; they depend on the "comprador" of China and the "banto" of Japan.

The Chinese people, at the capital especially, undoubtedly discriminate between Russians and other foreigners. Like other Orientals, they believe only what they see; and Russia is seen and understood on the northern frontiers. The Russian has the gift of dealing with the Chinese, with whom, whatever his social grade, he misses no opportunity to ingratiate himself:

"Says Mitchie, 'this characteristic of the Russian trading classes has enabled them to insinuate themselves into the confidence of the Chinese, to fraternize and identify themselves with them, and, as it were, make common cause with them in their daily life; while the European holds himself aloof, and only comes in contact with the Chinaman when business requires; in all the rest a great gulf separates them, in ideas and the aims of life.'"

"The United States," says Mr. Colquhoun, "are deeply concerned in the China question both from the industrial and the political point of view. Already compelled by the force of circumstances to embark on a foreign policy, and to look more and more to foreign markets, they can not but perceive that the question is of vital importance to themselves."

The Pacific States are possessed of enormous natural resources;

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their manufactures, while still of minor importance, have quadrupled in twenty years, and will in the course of time find the most advantageous market in the far East. "And when the Nicaragua canal is made, the Atlantic States will be brought into close connection with China and the whole of the far East."

The Government of China is a government of sham. It may be accepted as a general rule, obtaining throughout the public life of the empire, that things are never what they seem. Instead of defending the empire and the dynasty, the natural defenders seem ready to sell both, and "it is a problem," says Colquhoun, "how far the dynasty is true to itself."

For many years past the politics of Peking have been swayed by a bitter "palace" feud: the young Emperor and his party on one side, the Empress Dowager on the other. Into this quarrel the courtier Li Hung Chang has been thrust as go-between and factotum for the Empress. The fate of Li Hung Chang hangs on the protection of her whom he has served so long and so faithfully. Naturally, an old campaigner like Li looks for a second line of defense, and that is Russia. A threat of the invasion of Peking has always served to bring the Empress-Dowager to terms. "When the present Emperor was prepared to abandon the capital, during the Japanese war, it was that imperious lady who insisted on peace at any price; and it is chiefly on her sensitive feelings that Russian threats take effect."

Business transacted at the Tsungli-Yamen might almost as well be conducted in the market-place; and the foreign ministers who take the trouble are able to inform themselves accurately and promptly of all that passes between Chinese and foreign diplomatists. Russia takes first rank with her intelligence department. The "traveling rouble" works wonders; most Chinese officials are in the pay of Russia. To those who know anything of the ways of political Peking, the idea that a British correspondent there could ever transmit a piece of important news not known in the Russian legation is altogether absurd.

The position of Russia with regard to China seems not yet to be realized. Russia, herself semi-Asiatic, thoroughly understands how to deal with an Asiatic government, and to make herself feared. Her spokesmen claim that they are working for civilization—not for Russia alone, but for the whole of Europe. Russia poses in Europe as the bulwark of Christianity against the "Yellow Peril"; while in China she is the "protector" of her weak kinsman against the wave of Western aggression:

"It is time that countries like England, the United States, Australasia, and Germany too, set themselves to study these far Eastern movements. It would be well to reflect on the history of the ancient kingdoms formed by Genghis and his successors—for history is repeating itself. Russia is conquering by modern methods the kingdom of Genghis, and the Czar, once Emperor of China, will take the place of the Tartar conquerors who carried fire and sword throughout Europe and Asia."

MOROCCO AND THE POWERS.

MOROCCO is again the scene of much disturbance. The Riff pirates continue to attack small vessels, and the Sultan has to pay the fines. The Amsterdam *Handelsblad* predicts that the end of Moroccan independence draws near. That paper says:

"The descendants of the old Vandals continue to plunder all who come within their reach. The Sultan of Morocco must pay up, but his unruly subjects will neither return what they have stolen nor pay taxes. The Sultan will now attempt to punish them effectively. A few thousand men have been landed at the mouth of the Muluga River, and other troops are advancing overland. What result the campaign will have remains to be seen.

"If it is not successful, France will most likely interfere, for she suffers more than any other country from these robbers. The French are tired of their unquiet neighbors, and the Spaniards are no less dissatisfied, for Melilla is again threatened. The chances for interference in Moroccan affairs are uncommonly good. The Sultan is ill at Marakesh. Bu-Ahmed, the Grand Vizier, has retired to Fez, where he is surrounded by his friends, ready to defend him since he has lost the Sultan's confidence. A brother of the Sultan is raising the standard of revolt at the coast of Sus; one of his uncles has rebelled in the oasis of Tafilet, and he is said to have taken the treasure of the Moroccan dynasty with him. There is good fishing in such troubled waters. No power would seriously object if Spain and France interfere. Certainly no power is anxious or willing to defend the Riff pirates. If all Morocco is to be divided up, the 'others' still have time to advance their claims."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

AMERICAN WIVES THROUGH GERMAN EYES.

GERMAN writers have lately begun to turn their attention in the direction of the American woman. Their remarks are sometimes critical, but not unkindly so. We are told that if the American wife is wanting in qualities which distinguish the European, she has also charms in which she is unrivaled. Strangely enough, the daughters of the republic are credited with a special talent for taking their place by the side of the sons of "effete aristocracies."

A writer in the *Freie Presse*, Vienna, expresses himself to the following effect:

It is not true that the American woman, even if she refuses to knit and darn, leads an absolutely idle life.

It must be admitted that the American woman is not as willing to work as her German sister. She does not attend to housework, does not cook and mend. But she does not please her husband less, for all that. She cultivates her taste, she dresses well, she develops her artistic talents, and creates a charming home. The German woman endeavors to keep her husband with good meals, the American by adorning herself and the house. This is easy to explain. In Germany the *Wirthshaus* is the greatest enemy of home life; in the United States the club. The German woman would do well to become somewhat Americanized.

The *Lokal-Anzeiger*, Berlin, in an article headed "The Triumph of the American Woman," declares that an American wife is too expensive a luxury for a poor man, yet a luxury well worth having. We summarize as follows:

For generations, Europe has been forced to part with her superfluous offspring, being unable to find bread for them in her limited territory. To America they went, to a new world, where only the strong could survive in the ceaseless battle for life. But now this wonderful crossing of all European races has produced the most marvelously dainty women, who are victorious over their rivals wherever they go, and have even beaten the hitherto invincible Parisian. It must be admitted that their wealth gave them a great advantage; but this can not blind us to the fact that the American women to-day know well how to use their wealth. Their refinement and tact, together with their beauty, as well as their wealth, enable them to rule the fashionable world in Paris.

No one knows better how to adapt herself to her surroundings than the American women. If they are frivolous in gay Paris, they become the rivals of stately English ladies in London. No Englishman has yet been subjected to the sorry experience of Prince Chimay. In the American woman much that is beautiful has been returned to the Old World by the New.

The Berlin correspondent of the Chicago *Abend-Post* points out that there are rather more American women married to German gentlemen than to those of other European nations. But the American woman in Germany soon learns that newspaper notoriety is abhorred in her adopted country. The correspondent expresses himself, on the whole, as follows:

Like the German girl, the American has a predilection for a husband in uniform. The Almanach de Gotha shows this. "There is hardly a regiment to-day without its American," said an officer to me the other day. These American wives are very popular

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among the men; the ladies are not quite so enthusiastic about them. "They flirt too much," is the verdict. Yet it is no empty compliment to say that the American girl in Germany soon adapts herself to her surroundings. Her social talents are greater even than those of the Frenchwoman. Here and there an exception is heard of, as in the case of Miss Hayden, of Baltimore, who, when addressed by His Majesty the King of Saxony, replied: "I would rather you speak English to me, if you can, Highness!" But such bad breaks are rare. She was struck from the reception list, of course.

The number of American women married to men of high rank is very great. Chief among them is the present Countess Waldersee, whose first husband was Prince Noer, uncle of the Empress. She was a Miss Lee, of Cleveland, and is credited with having exercised a somewhat undesirable influence over the Emperor, as she is rather given to cant. Graf Waldersee, who was at one time mentioned as a possible Chief of the General Staff and even a future Chancellor, is not as influential as formerly. Still his wife must be reckoned with. Other American women in high places who should be mentioned are: Baroness Friesen (*née* Smith, of Philadelphia), Countess Franken-Sierstorff (Miss Knowlton, of Brooklyn), Countess Hatzfeld-Trachenberg (Miss Abbott, of New York), Countess Goetzen (Mrs. Lay, of Washington), the Baronesses Zedlit (Miss Roosevelt, of New York, and Miss Ehret, of New York), Baroness Zedtwitz (Miss Caldwell, a Kentuckian), Frau von Schutzbar (Miss Marston, of Chicago), Baroness Lüttwitz (Miss Cary, of Cleveland), Baroness Versen (Miss Clements, of St. Louis).—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HARCOURT'S RESIGNATION.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, who became leader of the Liberal Party in England when Lord Rosebery retired, has written a letter to John Morley in which he declares his intention to resign. Sir William is a Liberal of the Gladstone persuasion, and is credited with the belief that the British empire is quite large enough already. He wishes to improve the condition of the masses in England rather than to foster the "imperial" instinct. In this, as in other matters of party interest, there is great want of harmony among the British Liberals. Hence Sir William renounces the leadership of a party divided into factions. He remains, however, in the House of Commons.

Mr. Morley, in reply, acknowledged that Sir William was called to a difficult task, and that it is not surprising if he is weary of these efforts to hold the party together. Meanwhile the Liberal Party is without a head, and the British Government is, for the first time in many years, practically without its accustomed "most loyal Opposition." *The Westminster Gazette*, London, says:

"It is not to be expected that men of the power and eminence of Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Morley will efface themselves in order to secure the appearance of unity. It is not to be expected and not to be desired. They represent ideas of power and importance to a Liberal Party, however it may be organized. We shall best adjust conflicting views by giving free play and the fullest expression to every shade of opinion, provided always we can avoid faction and personalities. . . . We all have our pet wars; our trouble is that we do not agree about each other's wars. At one moment the 'forwards' criticize the 'backwards' because they will not risk a European war by single-handed intervention on behalf of the Armenians; at another moment the 'backwards' are exhorting Lord Salisbury to stand firm, while the 'forwards' want peace at almost any price in the matter of the Nile valley."

The Daily Chronicle says:

"Do not let us conceal from ourselves that this marks a great bereavement, a great warning, a great protest. We hope we are not going to lose Mr. Morley as well as Sir William Harcourt. But let there be no mistake about it. If we do lose them, we lose not merely a link of the past, but a hold on the future. We go a step farther. It seems as if for the moment the Liberal tradition had come to an end. *What is to take its place?* On the Continent the Socialist Party is, in the words of a famous diplomatist, the only hope of men who have not given themselves over to the worship of the military spirit. There is no such party here; but we confess that we feel disposed to hold our hands till we know where our new chiefs are going to lead us. We assent to, and we support, a reasonable imperialism, justified by a sense of duty to the new races that are coming under our sway, by a knowledge of the essential limits of our power, and by respect for the rights of others. But we are not jingoes, and we have no help to offer to statesmen who, forgetting the 'condition of England question,' think of the empire only in terms of expansion. Who will link the old with the new? Who will establish continuity between the political aims of the older Liberalism, its sane and sober outlook on the world, its acute realization of the main conditions of British policy, and the pressing social necessities of the future?"

The Manchester Guardian thinks Sir William Harcourt was hardly vigorous enough in his defense of the old-fashioned policy of the Liberal Party. He did not emphasize sufficiently the duty of Great Britain toward weaker nations, did not oppose sufficiently the jingoes of the Rhodes type. Had he done so, his followers would be more enthusiastic.

The Liverpool *Post*, too, thinks Sir William was not decided enough. The Newcastle *Leader*, however, believes that he has grounds for complaint, as he was not properly supported. *The Independent*, Sheffield, says:

"The Liberal who fulfils the qualifications of a national statesman to the greatest extent is Lord Rosebery. Few, whether in the ranks of Liberalism or Conservatism, doubt the soundness of his imperialism, or the wisdom and firmness of his foreign policy. If the nation's honor were entrusted to him, all parties would feel that it was in safe keeping. Again, his Liberalism in domestic affairs is broad, pronounced, and stimulating. It would be an almost fatal mistake to ostracize Lord Rosebery. The situation is a perplexing one; and to none can it be more perplexing than to Lord Rosebery, who has had no concern in the abrupt raising of the problem. But we believe that the Liberal Party will surmount the difficulty with unity and strength undiminished."

The Saturday Review says that Sir William Harcourt was never a strong man, and much too vehement in his zeal to be fitted for a leader. "Whatever the party fetish for the moment," says the paper, "Sir William has been among the earliest and most conspicuous worshipers. When others knelt, he has groveled; when others shouted, he has howled; when others danced round the altar, he has bounded; and when they sprinkled the incense, he has shoveled it on." *The Outlook* thinks it was his misfortune to be overshadowed by his great chief Gladstone. *The Spectator* believes Sir William will be in clover when the present "imperialist" wave has subsided. He may then become the unhampered and unmuzzled leader of the "little Englanders." *The St. James's Gazette* thinks Sir William has to suffer for the sins of his party, and chiefly for its adherence to Home Rule. That paper says:

"How much salvation have they found from their alliance with the quintessence of Irish anarchy? 'The fact is,' said Lord George Hamilton at Ealing yesterday, and he spoke truth, 'that ever since our political opponents sold themselves to Home Rule their affairs have not prospered.' Most assuredly they have not. The prosperity of the Liberal Party has been in exact proportion to its merits. . . . Fourteen years ago it was going in solid for the Grand Old Man. When his spells failed it did not reflect that what keeps a party together is principle and not the mere leader. . . . Sir William Harcourt was taken, the very people who had expected 'spiritual impulses' from Lord Rosebery singing in chorus that now at last the real necromancer had arrived. Yet his wonders have not proved a bit better than Lord Rosebery's. There is grumbling, and there are threats of dismissal and what not. Hereupon the leader goes off of himself to escape expulsion, cherishing nobody knows what black intentions toward his as yet unnamed successor. . . . . .

"All this is the inevitable consequence and the just punishment of the alliance with Home Rule. To begin with, that marriage infected the Liberals with all the envy, the spite, and the personal rivalries of their Irish allies—which beautiful qualities, for the

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rest, found a congenial soil in political dissent and in the pushing self-consciousness of the new Radicals."

The Social-Democrats, who are quietly increasing their influence, hope to benefit by what they consider the complete breakdown of Liberalism. *Justice*, London, says:

"In the rough and tumble of life you must have *some* definite object, *some* high ideal, *some* person or persons upon whom you can rely if you wish to succeed. The Liberals have none of these things, and so it comes about that their failure presents them as a spectacle of political imbecility, a laughing-stock, and a warning to gods and men. . . . . .

"Now, what are the radicals going to do? Are they going to allow a whole series of court intrigues and capitalist transactions to be carried out over their heads? Or are they going to rouse themselves at last from their apathy and degradation and make common cause with the Social-Democrats in a vigorous and determined effort to organize the people of Great Britain for a thoroughgoing attack upon the privileged and possessing classes? That is the question of the day."

VON BÜLOW'S SPEECH.

IN replying to an interpellation regarding the foreign policy of Germany, Secretary of State von Bülow made a speech in the Reichstag which has been widely commented upon. He referred at some length to the Spanish-American war, declaring that Germany at no time felt compelled to favor either belligerent. This was regarded as a matter of course by the German papers; and even the English press, which was chiefly responsible for rumors to the contrary, now fails to refer to the subject. Of greater interest to Europe is von Bülow's remark that Germany will not endanger her relations with other powers for the sake of an Anglo-German alliance.

Concerning the Spanish-American war, the Secretary of State said:

"I am specially glad to say that our attitude during the Spanish-American war has received approval in more than one quarter. Our task was a double one. In the first place, we had to take care that our relations with either belligerent were not disturbed. We would have preferred that no war broke out. When it did break out, we had only to remain neutral. No German interests were engaged in the Cuban question, and it was not our business to judge in the matter. Our duty as neutrals we have loyally fulfilled. Another task was to guard as much as possible against losses suffered by our shipping and trade. I believe we have been able to do so without deviating from our duty as neutrals. At no time during the war did we show a tendency to interfere on behalf of either belligerent. We did not even have a wish to do so."

Referring to Germany's position with regard to England, Herr von Bülow merely remarked "that Germany may act in unison with England in a number of cases, but without loosening other valuable connections." The Berlin *Tageblatt* remarks that "this is not very clear," and the *Vossische Zeitung* believes that "this is hardly what the English wanted." The English press certainly are not altogether satisfied. Mr. Chamberlain had only recently referred to the relations between England and Germany as little short of an alliance. This opinion must be modified after von Bülow's speech. *The Spectator*, London, wants to know exactly how far Germany is prepared to go with England, and says:

"We can imagine the Chinese quavering, and Mr. Krüger hesitating, and the Portuguese shaking over the idea of giving publicity to an arrangement; but when Germany and England are agreed, what does it matter who impugns their agreement? There is something of weakness in all this secrecy, and something, too, which gives to the fairest promises and the most satisfactory expressions of good will a touch of insincerity."

The Speaker, London, says:

"The typical German mind was once the reputed home of all lofty sentiments and noble vision. To-day, under the influence of commerce and the stress of empire, it has become the most practical and the least sentimental on earth. . . . Germany aims solely at her own interest, and therefore at preserving European peace. . . . Herr von Bülow puts forward a sober, self-interested, business-like policy, adapted for the development of German industry and the maintenance of European peace. We repeat: it is not ideal or inspiring, but it is business. . . . Germany means to pursue her own interest, to be friendly, and even cordial, where she can, to develop her industry and commerce in peace, and therefore to preserve the peace of Europe. It is a little difficult to see where the new army bill falls in with these plans. But one can not well quarrel with her policy. Self-interest, in this case, happens to coincide with the interest of mankind—except of that considerable minority of it which is still under the heel of the Turk."

The French are rather pleased with what they regard as a partial snub to Great Britain. The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, expresses itself to the following effect:

The other day at Wakefield Mr. Chamberlain spoke clearly enough of an Anglo-German alliance. The German Secretary of State says as clearly that Germany will not risk a quarrel with Russia in order to please England.• As Herr von Bülow is in the confidence of the Emperor, and is regarded as the coming Chancellor, his words have weight. As a matter of fact, Mr. Chamberlain's plans miscarry frequently enough. His Anglo-Saxon combination for the avowed purpose of attacking the world is not materializing. His alliance with Germany is a very tame affair. Luckily he still has Lord Salisbury to look after him, and the old Premier does not hesitate to come forward with a denial whenever the "new diplomacy" results in a blunder.

The Hamburg *Correspondent* says:

"There has never been any intention on our part to become England's allies. She must stay in her 'splendid isolation' as far as we are concerned. A certain understanding between the strongest military power and the greatest naval power is useful. The policy of the 'open door' is our policy, as our attitude in Kiau-Chou shows. In this we may, therefore, go together."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

THE German Colonial Society, an organization numbering nearly 30,000 members, including reigning princes, naval and military officers, and officials of high rank, protests against the rumored cession of Delagoa Bay to Great Britain, as this would weaken the Boer republics, and that is supposed to be detrimental to German interests in South Africa.

GERMAN papers note that the American press is less violent in its denunciation of Germany and the Emperor of late. The change is attributed to English influence by them. The theory is that the American papers look upon the world in general through spectacles provided for them by Fleet Street. The Germans nevertheless profess to be amused when our papers fail to adapt themselves rapidly enough to the lightning changes which modern British politics demand.

THE German immigrants are hardly as welcome in Canada as the not unimportant number of English-speaking Americans who have lately crossed the border. The Toronto *Globe* says: "The official figures show 3,533 persons reported at Winnipeg as coming from the United States during the ten months in question. The record by no means includes all Americans who came with the intention of settling in Canada. The Americans become Canadians with no regrets or longing for the land they have left. . . . We are only on the edge of development in British Columbia, and there is no likelihood that the inward flow of people from the United States will cease there for some years to come. We can heartily welcome them all and proceed to make them into good Canucks."

THE memorable scene which is taken by the Spanish papers as an occasion for again accusing the American authorities of having blown up the *Maine* (having first sent all or most of the officers to a place of safety!), is described in the Madrid *Imparcial* as follows: As soon as Montero Rios was informed that President McKinley had referred to the *Maine* catastrophe, he suggested a commission to be composed of an American, an Englishman, and a Frenchman to be selected by the United States, a Spaniard, an Englishman, and a Frenchman, selected by Spain, with a German as chairman. If the commission finds that the *Maine* was blown up from the outside, Spain pays the cost of the investigation and sends a ship to the United States to do homage to the Stars and Stripes. If the *Maine* was destroyed by an internal explosion, America must make *amende honorable* to Spain. The American Peace Commissioners stedfastly refused to submit the matter to an impartial tribunal. "To prevent unnecessary excitement," said Mr. Day, "the matter should be dropped." Dr. Montero Rios thought it peculiar that President McKinley, on his part, did not mind creating "unnecessary excitement" by referring to the loss of the *Maine* in his official message.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

AMERICA AS "THE LAND OF CONTRASTS."

"WHEN I first thought of writing about the United States at all, I soon came to the conclusion that no title could better than the above express the general impression left on my mind by my experiences in the great republic," writes Mr. James Fullerton Muirhead, author of "Baedeker's Handbooks" to Great Britain and the United States. So, in addition to the "Baedeker," Mr. Muirhead gives us in this book the latest of the many criticisms by Britons of their American kin. His treatment of the subject reveals him as a keen observer "not congealed by conventionalities, but ready to accept novelties on their merits." Tho he recognizes in us a people of huge inconsistencies, he can nevertheless write: "Those who believe in man's sympathy for man must have faith that some day relative human justice will be done, which will be as far beyond the justice of to-day as light is from dark; and it would be hard to say where we are to look for this consummation if not in the United States of America." Altho the result of a five years' acquaintanceship with the land of which it treats, the author states that the book is little more than a record of personal impressions. But the phenomena of the United States are so momentous and change so rapidly, that the observation of them from any new standpoint can not be without value. The implied lesson of the book seems to be against the danger of generalizing on anything so complex as American society. The following extracts from the second chapter explain the author's choice of title:

"The extraordinary clashes that occur in the United States are doubtless largely due to the extraordinary mixture of youth and age in the character of the country. If ever an old head was set upon young shoulders it was in this case of the United States—this 'strange New World, that yet was never young.' . . . . . .

"The general feeling of power and scope is probably another fruitful source of the inconsistencies of American life. Emerson has well said that consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds; and no doubt the largeness, the illimitable outlook, of the national mind of the United States makes it disregard surface discrepancies that would grate horribly on a more conventional community. . . . . .

"America claims to be the land of liberty *par excellence*, and in a wholesale way this may be true in spite of the gap between the noble sentiments of the Declaration of Independence and the actual treatment of the negro and the Chinaman. But in what may be called the retail traffic of life the American puts up with innumerable restrictions of his personal liberty. . . . Such petty officials as policemen and railway conductors are generally treated rather as the masters than the servants of the public. . . . A coal-carter will calmly keep a tramway-car waiting several minutes until he finishes his unloading. . . . On the other hand, the old Puritan spirit of interference with individual liberty sometimes crops out in America in a way that would be impossible in this country. An inscription in one of the large mills at Lawrence, Mass., informs the employees (or did so some years ago) that 'regular attendance at some place of worship and a proper observance of the Sabbath will be expected of every person employed.' . . . . . .

"Americans consider their country as emphatically the land of protection, and attribute most of their prosperity to their inhospitable customs barriers. This may be so; but where else in the world will you find such a volume and expanse of free trade? . . . The internal commerce of the United States makes it the most wonderful market on the globe; and Brother Jonathan, the rampant protectionist, stands convicted as the greatest Cobdenite of them all! . . . . . .

"It was an American who said, 'Give me the luxuries of life and I will not ask for the necessities'; and there is more truth in this epigram, as characteristic of the American point of view, than its author intended or would, perhaps, allow. In private life this is seen in the preference shown for diamond earrings and Paris toilets over neat and effective household service. The contrast between the slatternly, unkempt maid-servant who opens the door for you and the general luxury of the house itself is sometimes of the most startling, not to say appalling, description. . .

"If there is anything the Americans pride themselves on—and justly—it is their handsome treatment of woman. You will not meet five Americans without hearing ten times that a lone woman can traverse the length and breadth of the United States without fear of insult; every traveler reports that the United States is the paradise of women. Special entrances are reserved for them at hotels, so that they need not risk contamination with the tobacco-defiled floors of the public office; they are not expected to join the patient file of room-seekers before the hotel clerk's desk, but wait comfortably in the reception-room while an employee secures their number and key. There is no recorded instance of the justifiable homicide of an American girl in her theater hat. . . . But even this gorgeous medal has its reverse side. Few things provided for a class well able to pay for comfort are more uncomfortable and indecent than the arrangements for ladies on board the sleeping-cars. Their dressing accommodation is of the most limited description; their berths are not segregated at one end of the car, but are scattered above and below those of the male passengers; it is considered *tolerable* that they should lie with the legs of a strange, disrobing man dangling within a foot of their noses.

"Another curious contrast to the practical, material, matter-of-fact side of the American is his intense interest in the supernatural, the spiritualistic, the superstitious. Boston, of all places in the world, is, perhaps, the happiest hunting-ground for the spiritualistic medium, the faith-healer, and the mind-curer. . . .

"It is in America that I have over and over again heard language to which the calling a spade a spade would seem the most delicate allusiveness; but it is also in America that I have summoned a blush to the cheek of conscious sixty-six by an incautious tho innocent reference to the temperature of my morning tub. In that country I have seen the devotion of Sir Walter Raleigh to his queen rivaled again and again by the ordinary American man to the ordinary American woman (if there be an *ordinary* American woman), and in the same country I have myself been scoffed at and made game of because I opened the window of a railway carriage for a girl in whose delicate veins flowed a few drops of colored blood. . . . . .

"From New York to Buffalo I am whisked through the air at the rate of fifty or sixty miles an hour; in California I traveled on a train on which the engineer shot rabbits from the locomotive, and the fireman picked them up in time to jump on the baggage-car at the rear end of the train. . . . . .

"In the just-ended war with Spain, the United States did not fail to justify its character as the Land of Contrasts. From the wealthy and enlightened United States we should have certainly expected all that money and science could afford in the shape of superior weapons and efficiency of commissariat and medical service, while we could easily have pardoned a little unsteadiness on the part of civilians suddenly turned into soldiers. As a matter of fact, the poverty-stricken Spaniards had better rifles than the Americans; the commissariat and medical departments are alleged to have broken down in the most disgraceful way; the citizen-soldiers behaved like veterans."

In his chapter on "The American Woman" Mr. Muirhead has nothing but praise to utter, and his praise is both critical and sincere. Comparing her with her English cousin, he says of the latter, "the English girl is first the squire's daughter, second a good churchwoman, third an English subject, and fourthly a woman." Part of the charm of the American girl Mr. Muirhead discovers to lie in the fact that she eludes classification. She is almost invariably an individual, and not a type. The American child, on the other hand, the author finds altogether unendurable—so much so that he devotes a chapter to it. Even here inconsistency is persistent, for "by some mysterious chemistry of the American atmosphere, social or otherwise, the horrid little minx blossoms out into a charming and womanly girl, with just enough of independence to make her piquant; the cross and dyspeptic little boy becomes a courteous and amiable man." In American journalism Mr. Muirhead finds the same glaring contrast of extremes, not only between different papers, but in different departments of the same sheet. On our unsportsmanlike sports and our lack of reverence he also lays his finger. But through all his criticism there runs a note of appreciation. The key to his judgment is in the title of his book.

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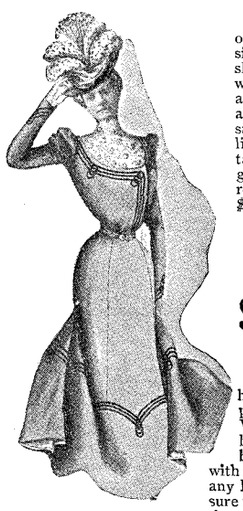

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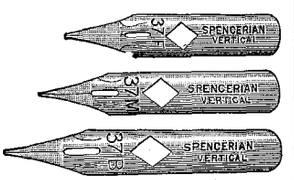

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"The American manufacturers should not conclude that because the implements are purchased in the United States it is unnecessary to canvass Mexico with the hope of increasing the demand. The sale of our manufacturers might be extensively increased by despatching to the agricultural districts intelligent representatives who understand the habits and customs of their prospective patrons and the Spanish language. He must adapt his methods to those of the Mexicans if he hopes to gain their favor and fill his order-book."

Mr. Kindrick states that he is informed by importers that manufacturers would secure more business if they would make special export prices to purchasers in Mexico. This is done by manufacturers of firearms in the United States in order to compete with European manufacturers of these articles.

United States Consul Halstead, at Birmingham, in his annual report says that there is hardly a single line of American manufacture of articles, used also in other countries, as well as many novel things not known elsewhere, but could be profitably exported if proper steps for its introduction were taken, and if careful, slow, reasonable, and common-sense methods of sale were adopted. He maintains that while the Americans are the best manufacturers in the world, they are the poorest traders. He is led to this belief by his observations of the way they are handling the export trade and their endeavors to get into it. Consul Halstead attributes the great increase in American export trade to a "fifty per cent." superiority in manufacturing knowledge and natural resources, notwithstanding a "fifteen to thirty per cent." inferiority in trading knowledge, a heavy percentage of unwillingness to learn foreign trading customs, and a still greater percentage of lack of foreign merchant facilities and organization. He says:

"If a small portion of the vast sum of money in the United States now seeking investment could be employed in some form of export scheme to handle American goods we would soon be able to record a greater export of American goods than of the raw products of the soil, tho to-day we are boasting of an excess of manufactured exports over the manufactured imports."

The question of an adequate supply of food products is always present in South Africa. The country will never be able to raise all the cereals it will use, for suitable land for this purpose is limited. There is never a large supply of wheat on hand, and the future requirements are not anticipated. This country depends largely upon the United States. Statistics supplied by American consuls show that Cape Colony alone imported 184,455,370 pounds, 178,131,801 pounds of which was imported from the United States.

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A NEW

Digestive Principle.

The leading medical publications of the country have been giving much space of late to a new element for digesting starchy foods. From many articles we take a selection from the *Medical Times*, New York:

"In these days of progress it is gratifying to know that cases of amylaceous (*i.e.*, starchy) indigestion which have so frequently baffled us can now be treated with a reasonable hope of success. For years we have been looking for a diastase (digester of starch) more potent than that found in the malt extracts. It remained for Mr. Takamine, a Japanese chemist, to discover one of remarkable power. In this product, Taka-Diastase, *we have what the profession has so long desired*, and it is therefore not remarkable that many of the best men in the profession have investigated it, and the conclusion uniformly reached is that in cases of inability to digest starches we have in this ferment *a reliable treatment*."

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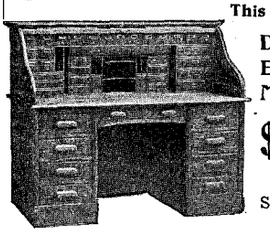

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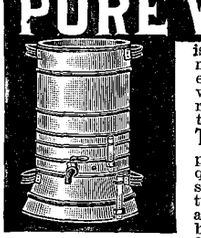

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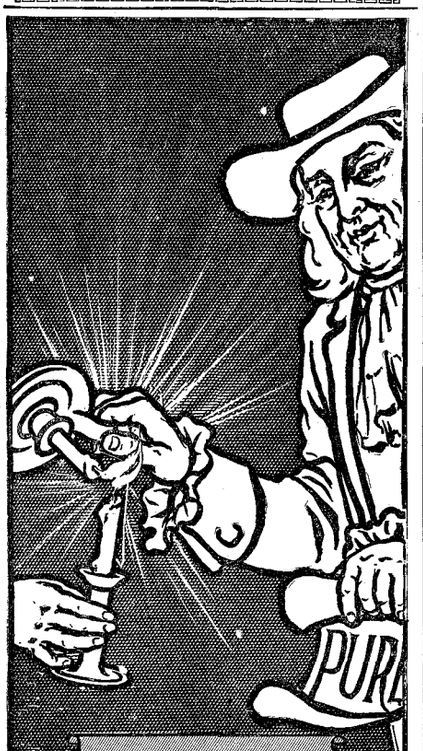

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PERSONALS.

DR. TIMOTHY DWIGHT, who has just resigned the presidency of Yale University, is fond of telling the following story of his life as a teacher:

He had under him a young man who was an inveterate shirker of his duties. In order that he might forego attending church service on Sundays he applied to Tutor Dwight for a seat in the Episcopal church, thinking that there he might prevail on the college monitor to allow him to "cut" now and then with impunity.

His efforts were fruitless, as the monitor was a marvel of conscientiousness. In this predicament the drone sought his division officer.

"Mr. Dwight," he said, "I shall have to ask you to allow me to attend some other church, for that Episcopal monitor is absolutely incorruptible. I can do nothing with him."

The boldness of the appeal was a source of undisguised merriment to the good-natured tutor.

WILFORD WOODRUFF, the aged president of the Mormon Church, died recently at San Francisco. He was born at Avon, Conn., on March 1, 1807, and was ordained to the priesthood in the Mormon church in 1833. In 1839 he became one of the twelve apostles, with the special title of "Banner of the Gospel," and he traveled extensively in the United States and Europe doing missionary work. In 1887 he succeeded John Taylor as president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He was a polygamist originally, but in 1890 professed to have received a revelation abolishing polygamy. He was a member of the Utah Legislature for a quarter of a century. During his ministry he traveled 172,369 miles, held 7,665 meetings, preached 3,226 discourses, organized 51 branches of the church and 77 preaching-stations. He followed his people in their journeyings through the country, and, in 1846, was one of the four men who directed the caravan of 400 wagons which carried the Mormons to Utah. His body has been shipped back to Salt Lake City. It lay in state in the Mormon Tabernacle, and the interment took place with great pomp and ceremony.

Current Events.

Monday, January 2.

—Theodore **Roosevelt is inaugurated** governor of New York.

—Despatches say that because General **Gomez demanded** that the surrender of Cuba be made jointly to him and to General Brooke, and, further, that the Cuban leaders had planned to sack Havana, that the **Cubans were excluded** from participation in the evacuation day ceremonies.

—Much opposition is developed at Santiago de Cuba to the weekly **transfer of the customs receipts** to Havana.

—It is reported that a warrant has been issued by the British authorities for the **arrest of Emile Zola.**

—It is reported that Spain, influenced by France and Russia, will refuse to sell Great Britain a coaling-station in the **Balearic Islands.**

Tuesday, January 3.

—M. S. **Quay is renominated** for United States Senator by the Republican caucus.

—The **natives at Iloilo,** it is reported, will resist the landing of armed American forces.

—Secretary Long sends detailed estimates to Congress for **fifteen new war-ships.**

—The **debt of the United States,** December 31, less cash in the Treasury, was $1,129,176,286.

—The **United States Court of Appeals at Chicago** decides, in a suit involving the application of the National Bankruptcy law, that the statute of Illinois does not give a workman any further priority of claim than that provided in the Federal law.

—It is reported that the **rebels have defeated** a

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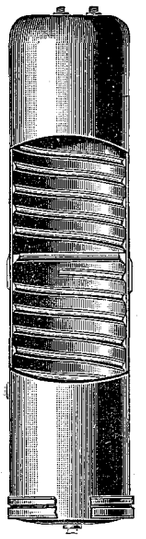

is marred by hot water discolored from the galvanized iron kitchen boiler, which rusts inside and affords a lodging place for dirt. The smooth tin lining of the

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Read these unsolicited testimonials and think if it is worth your while to take a week's free trial of a treatment that has been so powerful for good with others.

OXFORD, Penn., Dec. 8th, 1898.

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Gentlemen:—I saw your ad. in THE LITERARY DIGEST, sent for your rollers and put them under my wife's bed without her knowledge—the next morning she reported having enjoyed the best night's sleep for many weeks. She has continued to be benefited. Cannot return them, so send you the money herewith enclosed. Yours,
REV. F. B. HARVEY.

ITHACA, Mich., Dec. 12th, 1898,

SLAYTON ELECTRIC CASTER CO., Tecumseh Mich.,
Gentlemen:—Now after three weeks' trial of your Electric Casters, Mrs. Glidden and myself are satisfied that they are proving a real benefit to each of us, and are all you represented them to be, and wish to retain them permanently. With thanks for your courteous treatment. Very respectfully, REV. N. D. GLIDDEN.

TECUMSEH, Mich., Sept. 9th, 1898.

SLAYTON ELECTRIC CASTER CO.,
Gentlemen:—Since using your Electric Casters neither Mrs. Frost nor myself have been troubled with rheumatism. Mrs. F. was scarcely ever free from it before using the casters, but now says she never has a twinge of it.
Yours sincerely, W. E. FROST.

RIDGEWAY, Mich., Dec. 9th, 1898.

THE SLAYTON ELECTRIC CASTER CO.,
Gentlemen:—I am happy to say to you that your casters have completely cured me of my neuralgia, which I had had some six weeks. The fourth night I had them on my bed it all left me and I am now completely cured of the neuralgia and headache. I do hope they will help others as they have helped me. Truly yours, J. W. BAKER.

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body of imperial troops in the upper Yang-tse-Kiang region in China.

—The new **Viceroy of India** and his wife arrive at Calcutta.

Wednesday, January 4.

—**The President sends the treaty** of peace with Spain to the Senate.

—The Interior Department decides to establish a complete system of **schools in the Indian Territory.**

—United States Circuit Judge Morrow, at San Francisco, decides that the stamp **tax on telegraph messages** must be paid by the sender.

—Resolutions are adopted in the **California assembly** instructing the State's representatives in Congress to support the Administration in its policy regarding the Philippines.

—It is estimated by the director of the mint that the **gold output of the United States in 1898** was $65,762,677, an increase of $8,419,677 over that of 1897.

—**Major Esterhazy,** the author of the Dreyfus bordereau, is summoned to appear before the Court of Cassation.

Thursday, January 5.

—The Senate adopts a resolution of **inquiry as to the peace commission.**

—The official **text of the treaty of peace** with Spain is made public.

—The Anglo-American **Joint-High Commission** resumes its sessions in Washington.

—General Otis issues **a proclamation to the Filipinos** containing the President's instructions regarding the American policy in the islands.

—Twelve lives are **lost in a collision** between a French and British steamer in the English Channel.

—An Anglo-Egyptian force, under command of Colonel Lewis, **routs a Dervish emir** on the Blue Nile.

Friday, January 6.

—The Senate adopts a resolution, asking the President for the instructions given to the **Peace Commissioners.**

—The Navy Department receives a requisition for ships and supplies **from Admiral Dewey.**

—The **American Minister at Peking protests** against further exclusive grants to France or any other powers.

—The native governors of Luzon meet at Malalas and declare **for Philippine independence** against all foreign intervention.

Saturday, January 7.

—The gunboats *Solace*, *Princeton*, and *Yorktown* are **ordered to Manila.**

—Senator Lodge introduces a bill to provide for a submarine **cable between the United States and Hawaii,** the Philippines, Japan, and Australia.

—Benjamin F. Fifield is appointed **United States Senator from Vermont** to succeed the late Senator Morrill.

Sunday, January 8.

—It is reported that **the insurgents at Iloilo** threaten to burn the city if it is bombarded by the American fleet.

—It is reported by a Paris newspaper that the Court of Cassation holds that **Dreyfus was justly condemned.**

—Colonel Julison San Martin, who abandoned Ponce to General Miles without resistance, has been **sentenced in Spain** to imprisonment for life.

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The Index tells.
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Electric Currents.

Every one knows that when two substances are put near together an electric flow takes place between them. So from the human body of the earth there passes a continual current, strong when internal conditions give the body a high potential, and lower in the normal state. It was an interesting theory of Dr. Brown Séquard that the strength of this flow had a direct effect on rheumatism, neuralgia, and kindred and nervous diseases.

It is characteristic that the theory propounded by the Celts should be reduced to practise by a Yankee. A firm in Michigan claims to bring great relief to sufferers from these disorders by insulating them with glass bed casters, fitted with regulating electric switches for governing the insulation. The advertisement of this concern, The Slayton Electric Caster Co., Tecumseh, Mich., in another column, is worth reading. They show their confidence in the virtue of their treatment by giving a week's free trial.

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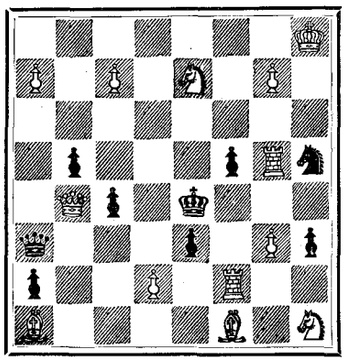
Problem 347.

Specially Contributed to THE LITERARY DIGEST BY WALTER PULITZER.

Black—Nine Pieces.



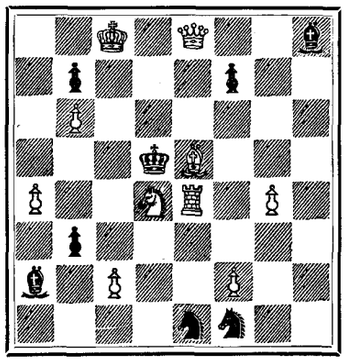
White—Thirteen Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 348.

First Prize *Dreizüger-Turnier des Aftonbladet.*

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 341.

Key-move, Kt—K 8.

Solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; R. M. Campbell, Cameron, Tex.; W. W. Smith, Randolph-Macon College, Lynchburg, Va.; C. Porter, Lamberton, Minn.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; Prof. C. D. Schmitt, University of Tennessee; E. H. Davies, Harlow, Ark.; J. R. Hile, West Superior, Wis.; the Rev. E. C. Haskell, Battle Creek, Iowa.; H. W. Barry, Boston; Medora Darr, Finleyville, Pa.

Comments: "Key rather abvious; otherwise very good"—M. W H.; "A Capital Challenger"—I. W B.; "Good"—F. H. J.; "A problem of surpassing beauty and strength"—R. M. C.; "Beautiful, but not difficult"—F. S. F.; "Contains many good points; but the key is rather strong"—H. W. B.

No. 342.

1. B—Kt 5 / K—K 4 — 2. Kt—B 6 ch / K—K 5 (must) — 3. Kt x QP or Kt P! mate

1. ..... / Kt x Kt — 2. Kt x Q P db. ch / K—K 4 (must) — 3. Kt—B 7 ! ! mate

1. ..... / Kt—B 4 — 2. Kt—K 3 ch / Kt x Kt — 3. Q—Kt 2 ! ! ! mate

2. ..... / K—K 4 — 3. Kt—B 6, mate

1. ..... / R x P — 2. Kt—B 6 / Kt—B 4 — 3. Q—B 4, mate

1. ..... / P Queens — 2. Kt—B 6 / P—B 7 — 3. Kt—R 4, mate

2. ..... / Q x Q — 3. Kt—K 3, mate

Other variations depend upon those given.

Solution received from M. W. H., I. W. B. F. H. J., R. M. C., W.W. S., C. P., E. C. H., H. W. B., M. D.; J. A. Nicholson, Dover, Del.

Comments: "Ingenious and difficult"—M.W.H.; "A strong problem requiring diligent search for motto and key"—I. W. B.; "A splendid conception; good enough for first prize"—F. H. J.; "Brilliant and beautiful"—R. M. C.; "Striking"—W. W. S.; "Very difficult even after one gets the first move"—C. P.; "A pretty idea, cleverly illustrated"—H. W. B.

Several of our old solvers were caught by Kt—K 6. This looks as if it would work:

1. Kt—K 6 / K—K 4 — 2. Kt—R 6 / Any (?) — 3. Kt—Kt 4, mate

The trouble is that when you make "any" read Kt—B 4, there isn't mate next move, for if you check anywhere K x P. Another key was tried: Kt—B 6, the reply to which is Kt—Q 5.

H. W. Barry, Boston, solved 339 and 340. He uses the words "Very subtle" as description of 340. E. C. D., Spencer, Mass., Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Streed, Cambridge, Ill., got 338 and 339. Medora Darr got 339. A. J.Hamilton, Portland, Ore., was successful with 337 and 338, and F. L. Hitchcock, Scranton, Pa., found the key of 335.

CONCERNING NO. 344.

Dr. Dalton regrets exceedingly that he sent the wrong diagram of 344, and desires by this acknowledgment of his error to exonerate the Chess Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST from any blame. The problem as published has two solutions. The right setting requires that the White K should be on K Kt 8, and a White P on K R 4. Dr. Dalton hopes that his friends will pardon him, fix the problem, and send solution as soon as possible.

English Prize-Winners.

Chess Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DEAR SIR:—As you doubtless are aware, I make it a rule never to criticize other composers' problems—which is one reason why I never figure in any solving-contest. A good problem is to me a highly suggestive work, and I can not dismiss it with a single phrase.

However, if we are to confine ourselves to two-movers, it is seldom I alight on a good problem; so that *to criticize or not to criticize* is rarely the question with me.

In this week's DIGEST there is a 2-er by one Fothergill, an English composer, which, after solving at a glance, I confess set me a-thinking.

I put the query to myself, "Why did this particular problem gain first prize?" and I answered it in almost the same breath: "Because it is tricky!"

I hear the chorus of voices (DIGEST solvers) exclaim: "What, you don't admire the problem?"

I beg your pardon. I *do* admire it, but sometimes you know a positive and a negative go hand-in-hand. I admire it exactly for what is worth—no more. While I was admiring it, in fact, the thought came upon me, that the best problem entered in a tourney (especially a transatlantic one) doesn't by any means always win first prize.

I hear the chorus of sweet voices again: "Ah! then you don't deem Mr.F.'s 2-er worthy firstprize? We presume you entered a problem yourself in the 'Football Field' Tourney, which proved unsuccessful, and therefore you feel rather spiteful against this, the successful one! Well, we all think it a splendid one—so there!"

Again, I beg leave to say that I did not enter (nor ever dreamed of entering) a problem in the tourney; but I admit you are right in your belief that I consider this problem unworthy of its high honor. You may say: "It was perhaps the best of the batch." Then my answer is: "The contest was not a first-class one, inasmuch as it must have failed to elicit the best work from the best composers."

What are the faults in this 2-er? White's lack of resource, disclosing the fact at once that the Q must make the initial coup; the cramped position of the R at R 1; the existence of the White Pawn at Q 6 and the Black Pawn at Q 2; the threatening attitude of the Black R (considering the fact that the White King is tied down to his square), showing that in some way he must be caught; the limited range for Black's few forces, and lastly the greatest defect of all, namely, the excessive guard placed on Black King's fourth square. No less than four White men cover this spot! The problem is what would be called narrow in scope; which is another way of saying it is limited in possibilities. How should a problem "limited in possibilities" be entitled to a tournamental prize?

What are the virtues of the composition? Answer: A very good key, despite its obviousness and trickiness, for it develops two or three fine mates; good construction; pleasing, if rather hackneyed, variations, or afterplay.

However this 2-er is only a case in point. I have never seen any good whatever come out of a problem tourney; and my opinion, instead of having changed, is now as it was five years ago. I will always remember that one of my poorest two-movers won first prize in an English problem-contest.

It has been said that the English are essentially creative (in literature, art, and most things), and that they do not make good critics. I think this is a truism, and applies equally well to problem-work and criticism. I find much to commend in the best output of the best English composers, but their theories and criticism I nearly always find fault with. Their judgment is none too good. No English tournament passes by, the verdict of which impresses me as being fair and true. How often the second, third, or sometimes fourth prize-winners prove better in many respects than the first. And I think I am not alone in my opinion.

Personally I have every reason to hold the English problemist and problem-editor in the highest respect and admiration; but if they would only select problem-judges of some other nationality when it comes to making the awards in their tourneys, my admiration would increase!

In that case we should not see the same names, strangely enough always English ones, appearing so repeatedly among the prize-winners of every tourney. The reputation of favoritism, too, which gains ground every day, would at least be removed.

After which I expect to be set down as a "Yankee crank," who is trying a new way of "twisting the lion's tail." If I have only made Mr. F.'s harmless 2-er the pretext for *a growl*—I feel none the less justified. But goodness knows, I am in no growling mood!

Haven't I just scanned those over-indulgent comments of the over-indulgent DIGEST solvers, anent some two-move effort of my own? Doesn't I. W. B.'s aptly alliterative criticism still ring sweetly in my willing ears!

WALTER PULITZER.

The Janowsky-Showalter Match.

On account of the death of Mr. Showalter's brother, the match was postponed for nearly four weeks. The two masters met again on January 6. We hope that nothing will prevent the regular continuance of the match until the best man wins. At the time of going to press the score stands: Janowski, 5; Showalter, 2; Draws, 4.

Kansas vs. Nebraska.

On January 5, play began in a Correspondence Tourney to test the relative Chess-strength of Kansas and Nebraska. Kansas is represented by N.A. Voss, G. M. Ufford, W.W. Gibson, Dr. J. J. Parker, L. C. Moise, Prof. A. S. Hitchcock, A. L. Wagenseller, and O. A. Bayless. Those battling for the honor of Nebraska are E. R. Tyson, T. N. Hartzell, Lee Edwards, Nelson Hald, P. J. Barron, A. Rasmisson, G. L. Clark, C. Q. De France.

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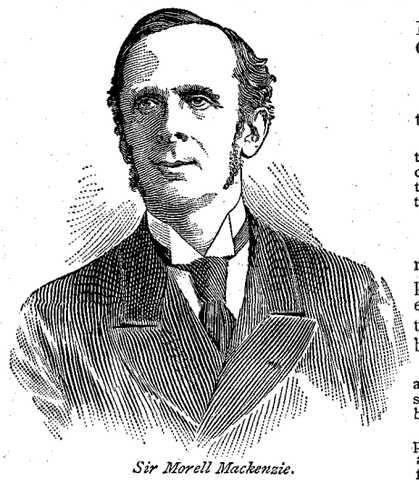

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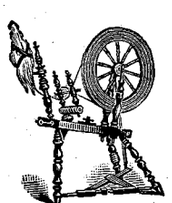

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